THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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179 PROFESSIONAL COLLEGES SHUT DOWN DURING 2020-21

According to AICTE, this is the highest number of closure of technical institutions over the past nine academic years

134 INSTITUTES DID NOT SEEK APPROVAL

The 179 professional colleges that shut down this academic year include engineering institutes and B-schools. Besides, 134 institutes did not seek approval this year in view of the large number of seats lying vacant. Also, at least 44 institutes could not get approval or their approvals were withdrawn due to punitive action by the technical education regulator

EXISTING STUDENTS NEED NOT WORRY

- Progressive closure means the institute cannot admit students for the first year. However, existing students will continue till completion of their course and their degrees are treated as valid
- In academic year 2020-21, a total of 1.09 lakh seats approved by AICTE were reduced in pharmacy and architecture institutions

92

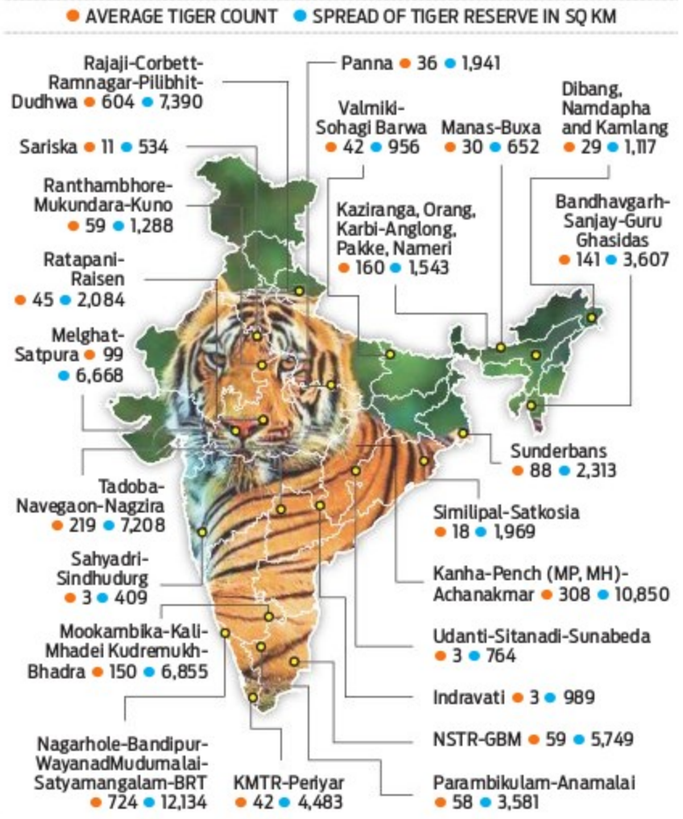
TECHNICAL INSTITUTES CLOSED DOWN IN THE 2019-20 ACADEMIC SESSION

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Department
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department
Everyone, everyday everytime use Toilet
परिहार parihara +91 94809 85555
Swachha Gramasutra 1
DIGNITY IS INSIDE DON'T GO OUTSIDE
Share your 'Dignity' story of using toilets
www.swachhamevajayate.org GovtOfKarnatakaRdpr GokRDPR @gokRDPR
Shri B. S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Karnataka

EXPRESS MAPS

TIGER DENSITY AND ITS STOMPING GROUNDS


AVERAGE TIGER COUNT • SPREAD OF TIGER RESERVE IN SQ KM
Rajaji-Corbett-Ramnagar-Pilibhit-Dudhwa • 604 • 7,390
Panna • 36 • 1,941
Valmiki-Sohagi Barwa • 42 • 956
Manas-Buxa • 30 • 652
Dibang, Namdapha and Kamlang • 29 • 1,117
Sariska • 11 • 534
Ranthambhore-Mukundara-Kuno • 59 • 1,288
Kaziranga, Orang, Karbi-Anglong, Pakke, Nameri • 160 • 1,543
Bandhavgarh-Sanjay-Guru Ghasidas • 141 • 3,607
Ratapani-Raisen • 45 • 2,084
Melghat-Satpura • 99 • 6,668
Sunderbans • 88 • 2,313
Tadoba-Navegaon-Nagzira • 219 • 7,208
Similipal-Satkosia • 18 • 1,969
Sahyadri-Sindhudurg • 3 • 409
Kanha-Pench (MP, MH)-Achanakmar • 308 • 10,850
Mookambika-Kali-Mhadei Kudremukh-Bhadra • 150 • 6,855
Udanti-Sitanadi-Sunabeda • 3 • 764
Indravati • 3 • 989
NSTR-GBM • 59 • 5,749
Nagarhole-Bandipur-WayanadMudumalai-Satyamangalam-BRT • 724 • 12,134
KMTR-Periyar • 42 • 4,483
Parambikulam-Anamalai • 58 • 3,581

- India has 2,967 tigers - 70% of global tiger population
- Highest prey densities recorded for Corbett, Rajaji, Pench-MP and Bandipur
- Largest contiguous tiger population in the world of about 724 tigers was found in the Western Ghats (Nagarhole-Bandipur-Wayanad-Mudumalai Satyamangalam-BRT block)
- The second largest population of about 604 tigers was found across Uttarakhand and western Uttar Pradesh (Rajaji-Corbett-Ramnagar-Pilibhit-Dudhwa

REPORT ON: P9

With 16K containment zones, city sealed up

12,325 active restricted areas; Experts say strategy adopted to contain spread of Coronavirus ineffective

IFFATH FATHIMA & BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

IT'S shocking. Bengaluru now has 16,005 containment zones from a mere 20 in May, as the city has been reporting nearly 2,000 Covid-positive cases daily over the last few days.

Of these, 12,325 are active containment zones. The South Zone leads the list with 3,935 containment zones, followed by East with 2,256, West 1,770, Bommanhalli 1,548 and Yelahanka 437. In all, 13,276 streets, 1,267 apartment complexes, 23 slums, 40 clusters and one hotel have been identified as restricted areas as on Monday, according to the BBMP Covid-19 war room data.

While BBMP officials blamed people for not taking enough precautions after the lockdown was eased, leading to the spike, experts said the state government and Palike should stop pointing fingers at people, and focus on carrying out a comprehensive survey of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection and Influenza Like Illness cases, and reverse isolation of the elderly and comorbid patients.

A poster announces sealing down of an area near JC Road in Bengaluru on Tuesday | PANDARINATH B

KARNATAKA COVID-19 BATTLE

Test Positive on Tuesday **5,536**

1,07,001 Total Cases

2,055 Total Deaths

40,504 Total Recoveries

P4

Dr Giridhar Babu, Professor and Head, Lifecourse Epidemiology, PHFI and a member of the Covid expert committee, said, "The SARI and ILI survey should be conducted at least once in 10 days, along with enhanced testing, strict isolation of cases and reverse quarantining. This will reduce transmission and also the burden on hospitals. We can also save lives with this strategy."

Dr Sylvia Karpagam, a public health expert and researcher, said the containment strategy works only in initial stages and the focus should have been on reverse quarantine. "Effective measures were not carried out by the government and BBMP. Containment is a planned strategy during the initial stages of a pandemic to cordon off areas that have reported a peak in cases and allows the spread to be curbed. However, when several areas are affected, containment is not a good strategy. If the government acknowledges community spread, then the focus can move from containment to two things -- one, to prevent the spread from person to person, and the other to protect high-risk groups," she said.

"If everyone is assumed to be potentially infected then everyone is encouraged to take universal precautions. But continuing with containment creates a feeling that some places are at risk and others are not. But in reality, all areas are at potential risk. With cases and deaths rising in Bengaluru, the focus should be on setting up safe reverse quarantine facilities for those at high risk, and publicise this," she added. P7

Reconsider decision to hold CET: HC to state

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court on Tuesday directed the state government to reconsider its decision to hold the Karnataka Common Entrance Test (KCET) on Thursday and Friday, as some students may miss it due to the prevailing Covid-19 situation.

The division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice HP Sandesh also told the state to place the decision on record on Wednesday. It was hearing two separate PILs filed by Eric E Stephens, NSUI secretary, Thiruvananthapuram, and others, and Abdulla Mannan Khan from Mysuru, seeking directions to defer the CET.

The pandemic situation has undergone a drastic change since the notification to hold the CET was issued on May 13. Over the past two weeks, the state has seen over 5,000 Covid-positive cases and Bengaluru 2,000-plus cases every day, the bench said.

Meanwhile, reacting to the High Court's direction, the government said that it is firm on its decision to move ahead with the exam schedule. P2

Now, NIA arrests Delhi Univ prof Hany Babu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

THE National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Tuesday arrested Delhi University professor Hany Babu in connection with the Bhima Koregaon riots for allegedly propagating Maoist ideology and activities. It also claimed he was a co-conspirator along with other arrested accused in the case.

A resident of Gautam Buddh Nagar in Uttar Pradesh, 54-year-old Hany Babu is an Associate Professor in the Department of English, an NIA spokesperson said.

"During investigation it was revealed that Hany Babu Musaliyarveettil Tharayil was propagating Naxal activities and Maoist ideology," the agency statement said.

The case relates to allegedly inciting people and giving provocative speeches during an Elgar Parishad event organised by the Kabir Kala Manch at Shaniwarwada in Pune on December 31, 2017, which promoted enmity between various caste groups and led to violence, resulting in loss of life and property and statewide agitation in Maharashtra, the official said.

NIA sources said that Babu has close association with arrested activists Rona Wilson and Gautam Navlakha.

The NIA has accused Babu of conspiring with the other arrested accused in the case to carry out subversive activities. He will be produced in a special NIA court in Mumbai on Wednesday, where the agency will seek his further custody for questioning, it said.

Babu was recently summoned by the NIA, Mumbai branch, for questioning. Officials said after interrogating him for the last few days, a decision was taken to arrest him.

"During questioning, his association with accused Gautam Navlakha and others was established. The need for custodial interrogation was felt," the official said. P9

EXPRESS READ

Govt notifies amended civil aviation FDI policy

New Delhi: The Centre on Tuesday notified changes in FDI norms on civil aviation, which will permit non-resident Indian nationals to own 100 per cent stake of national carrier Air India.

Malaysia ex-PM Najib given 12 years in jail

Kuala Lumpur: A Malaysian court sentenced former Prime Minister Najib Razak to 12 years in prison on Tuesday, after finding him guilty of crimes involving the looting of the 1MDB fund. P11

SUSHANT DEATH: RHEA BOOKED

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna

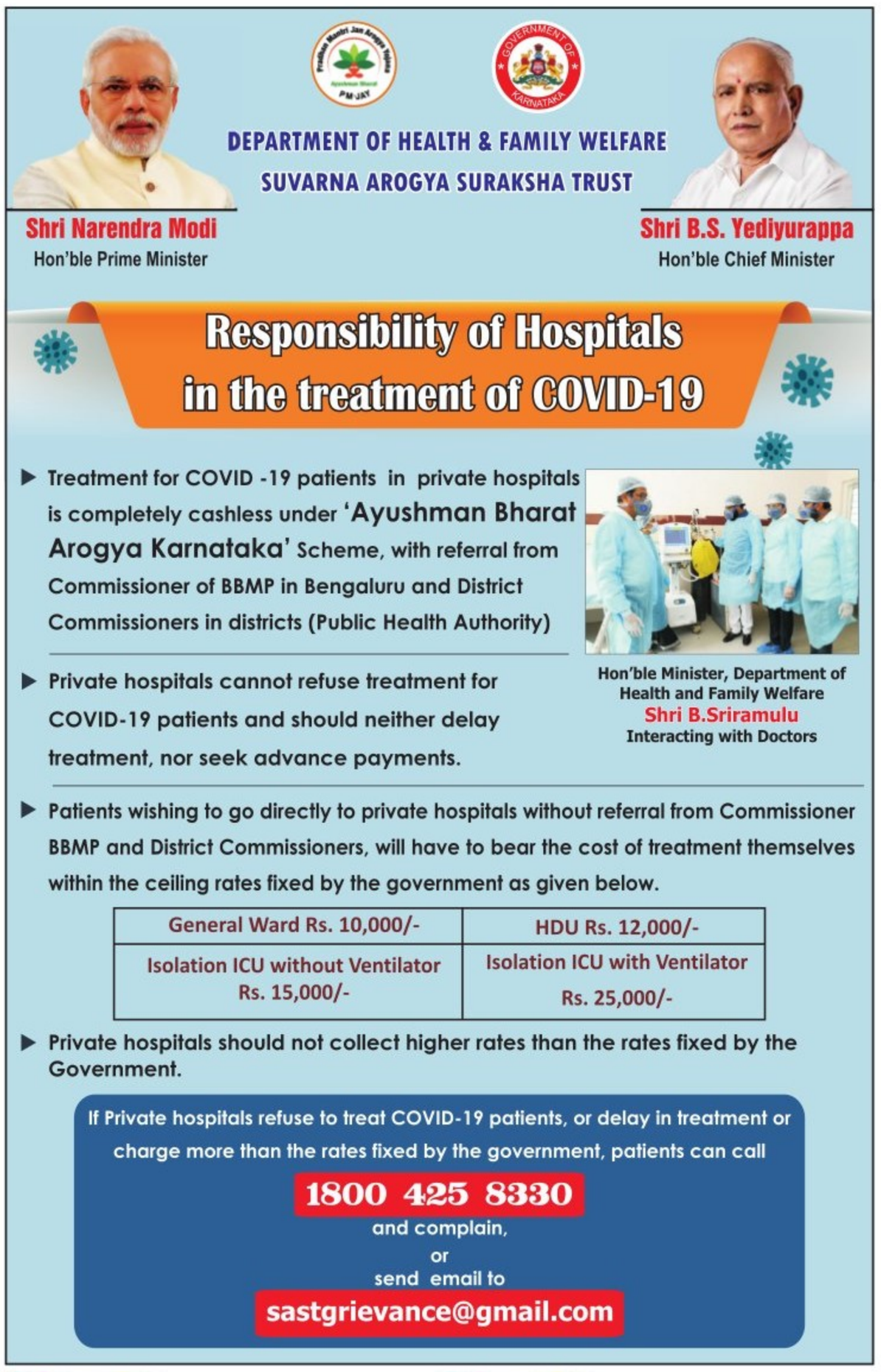
BOLLYWOOD actor Sushant Singh Rajput's father has lodged an FIR against Sushant's actor girlfriend Rhea Chakraborty at a police station in Patna.

Sushant's family accuses Rhea of cheating him financially and mentally harassing him. The actor was found dead at his apartment in Mumbai on June 14.

Rhea was booked under various sections, including abetment to suicide. Others named as accused include Rhea's parents Sandhya and Inderjeet Chakraborty and brother Showik.

"The FIR was filed by Sushant's father Dr KK Singh on Saturday under Sections 341, 342, 380, 406, 420 and 306 of the IPC at the Rajivnagar PS," Patna IG Sanjay Singh said.

Sources said the FIR was filed at the instance of Bihar CM Nitish Kumar. Besides accusing Rhea of splurging his son's money on shopping, Dr Singh claims that a huge transaction of ₹15 crore was made from Sushant's account in a private bank. A four-member police team is in Mumbai in connection with the case.


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
SUVARNA AROGYA SURAKSHA TRUST
Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri B.S. Yediyurappa
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Responsibility of Hospitals in the treatment of COVID-19
Treatment for COVID -19 patients in private hospitals is completely cashless under 'Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka' Scheme, with referral from Commissioner of BBMP in Bengaluru and District Commissioners in districts (Public Health Authority)
Private hospitals cannot refuse treatment for COVID-19 patients and should neither delay treatment, nor seek advance payments.
Hon'ble Minister, Department of Health and Family Welfare
Shri B.Sriramulu
Interacting with Doctors
Patients wishing to go directly to private hospitals without referral from Commissioner BBMP and District Commissioners, will have to bear the cost of treatment themselves within the ceiling rates fixed by the government as given below.
General Ward Rs. 10,000/-
HDU Rs. 12,000/-
Isolation ICU without Ventilator Rs. 15,000/-
Isolation ICU with Ventilator Rs. 25,000/-
Private hospitals should not collect higher rates than the rates fixed by the Government.
If Private hospitals refuse to treat COVID-19 patients, or delay in treatment or charge more than the rates fixed by the government, patients can call
1800 425 8330
and complain,
or
send email to
sastgrievance@gmail.com

ALMANAC TODAY
• Wednesday 29/07/2020 • Year: Sarvari • Ayana : Dakshinayana • Ritu: Varsha
• Masa: Sravana • Paksha: Shukla • Tithi: Dashami 2:20 am • Nakshatra: Vishaka 10:44 am
• Moon in Dhanur Rashi • Rahukaala: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm
• Gulikakala: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm • Yamaganda: 07:30 am to 09:00 am

WEATHER WATCH
MIN 22°C | MAX 27°C
FORECAST
Thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy.

Sunrise 6.04 am
Sunset 6.47 pm
Moonrise 2.03 pm
Moonset 1.02 am

MULTIPLEXES, METRO TO UNLOCK? WAIT AND WATCH

PREEJA PRASAD @Bengaluru

THE Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has written to the State government, seeking permission to restart Metro services in the city, sources told TNIE. With chances of the Centre allowing multiplexes and theatres to reopen across the country, gym owners and the corporation hope to return to business from August 1 as per Unlock 3.0 guidelines. BMRCL managing director Ajay Seth was unavailable for comment.

Malls have started sanitising their theatres, confirmed Forum Mall general manager Touseef Ahmed Khan.

PVR Cinemas said that it has partnered with Dettol for disinfection. Staggered seating, marked queuing and digital transactions are some of the initiatives that have been introduced as precautions.

Metro work in progress at Tumakuru Road on Tuesday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

Apart from this, all employees will undergo health screenings daily and fortnightly. They will wear personal protection equipment (PPE) while working. Special PPE kits with masks, gloves and sanitiser can be purchased.

In order to minimise human contact, digital transactions have been enabled via NFC, e-wallets and other online aggregators. Customers will no longer be frisked and they can order food using their phones with the bill being generated digitally. Furthermore, to facilitate paperless movie tickets at the box office, QR codes will now be sent to customers' phones that can be scanned at the entrance to the theatre. Other initiatives include disposable food containers and packaging, extended intermissions to avoid crowding, foot-operated sanitiser, disposable 3D glasses, UV-based cutlery, crockery and packaging steriliser.

There have been reports that theatres will be allowed to function with only 25% capacity. "Nothing can be said now as we have not received the Centre's guidelines," Khan told TNIE.

Mayor Goutham Kumar, Dy Mayor Ram Mohan Raju, and BBMP Commissioner Manjunath Prasad during the Council meet | SHRIRAM BN

Thermal screening is not enough, pass smell test too

Mayor to write to govt; council meet discusses Covid management

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

CITING that only thermal screening of patients was not sufficient to assess if a person has Covid symptoms, Mayor M Goutham Kumar on Tuesday said he will write to the government requesting that a 'smell test' also be made compulsory to enter malls, offices or other places.

He said that studies and reports from across the globe have shown that fever is not the only parameter, many experience a loss of smell and taste, so smell cards should be kept at designated places. These cards emit various aromas, like lemon, mango and orange, he said. This analysis has started in Delhi and should be replicated here too.

Speaking in the Council on the point raised by councillors that many people who do not have fever are found to be Covid-positive, he said that thermal screening was not the only solution. "I agree with you and I am writing to the government on this. The Commissioner is also looking into this and the proposal will be sent to the health department," the Mayor said.

This was the first Council meeting attended by councillors from all eight zones via video conference.

Only skeletal staff were present at the main Council hall. Addressing the issue of patients being denied beds and treatment, Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad said that those who develop mild symptoms when in home quarantine or even suddenly, can rush to the nearest Covid Care Centre and will not be denied entry or treatment. He said that on Monday alone, 20 private hospitals were slapped with showcause notices for not reserving 50% of beds for Covid patients.

The commissioner urged corporators to join hands immediately to form ward and booth-level committees to decentralise Covid-19 management. He said that at the war room, the process of sending data has started, for quick contact tracing and early testing. "When testing increases, cases increase, but they will also be controlled and cases in the city will drop. It has also come to light that around 1,800 cases cannot be traced because wrong addresses were given, these cases have been given to the police department," he added.

Councillor throws a dare

The tussle between councillors continued, this time on the availability of ambulances. A JDS corporator lashed out at the Mayor and Commissioner, demanding they dial for an ambulance. He challenged them it would not come even in one hour. To this, BJP councillors stood on the floor, demanding action, and Congress and JDS councillors hit back.

Health kits for those in home quarantine soon

ENS @Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad on Tuesday said that a discussion was being held with the government and Health Department on providing special kits for those in home quarantine. The kits will comprise a pulse oximeter, thermal screener, medicines, instruction manual and a list of contact numbers in case of emergencies.

The Commissioner said that in most cases, patients don't need to be taken to hospitals or Covid Care Centres. Those with mild symptoms or asymptomatic are advised home isolation. There is need for a regular check of these people, hence the government is to finalise these kits. The cost is also being decided.

According to data, of the 33,816 patients in Bengaluru, 353 are in ICU, 152 in government hospitals, 170 in government medical colleges, 828 in private hospitals, 1,412 in private medical colleges, 2,529 in BBMP CCCs, 492 in private care centres, and over 10,000 in home quarantine.

He added that to address the issue of ventilator shortage, some hospitals like Nimhans and Jayadeva have come forward to provide the extra ventilators they have for patients.

Govt to go ahead with KCET, but ready to abide by HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government appears to be firm on conducting the KCET on schedule on July 30-31, despite the Karnataka High Court direction to reconsider its decision. The government has said it will move ahead with the timetable, and is scheduled to file its response in court by 2.30pm Wednesday.

DyCM Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, who is also higher education minister, convened a video conference with high-level officers to discuss the matter, during which the officers deemed it safe to conduct the exam on the scheduled dates.

It is said that senior officers, including deputy commissioners, informed Narayan that students from all areas, including containment zones and neighbouring states, will not only be allowed to write the exams, but appropriate measures will be taken. The officers said that when SSLC students, who are younger than CET candidates, could successfully give their board exams, conducting CET will not be an issue.

Post the video conference, the DyCM said this would be conveyed to the high court via the advocate-general on Wednesday. "We are ready to conduct the exams. We'll give all necessary details to the court and abide by whatever verdict the court will deliver," Narayan said.

'What about CET students from restricted zones?'

Continued from page 1

The SOP issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on April 17 prohibits people in containment zones from going out. Public transport too has been disrupted, the HC said, directing the state government to reconsider its decision. The bench said the two petitioners had not approached the State for relief before filing the PIL, as is mandated by the law. "You sleep over the matter though the notification was issued on May 13 and come to the court," the bench berated them. Additional Advocate-General Dhyan Chinnappa said the State would go ahead with the exam as there is an SOP to hold exams. The bench said, "How will students from containment zones appear as it is not possible to go out? This is not the SSLC examination. You must reconsider the whole issue."

EXPRESS READ

Contribute to animal conservation via this app

To help people donate for conservation and adopt animals, the Zoo Authority of Karnataka has developed a mobile app called 'Zoos of Karnataka'. People can contribute even as little as ₹50 for the care of animals. It will be officially launched by the Forest Department and scion of the erstwhile Mysore royal family Yaduveer Wadiyar on Wednesday. The app has been developed to ease the process of adoption, quick dissemination of information, and transfer money, an official release said. ENS

ON STRIKE

20 days on, ASHA workers still see no relief

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

A total of 300 ASHA workers will hold a protest on Wednesday at Anand Rao Circle in Bengaluru at 11:30 am, while their counterparts in other districts will do the same in front of their respective deputy commissioners' office.

They met Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, Deputy CM Dr CN Ashwath Narayan and Health Minister B Sriramulu on Tuesday, and while the ASHA workers said they got a positive response from all three, they want everything in writing. Without that, they said they will carry on with their protests. The ministers have asked for two-days time, after which they will hold a discussion with the frontline workers over a hike in wages.

Karnataka Rajya Samyuktha ASHA Karyakarte Sangha is affiliated to the All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC). Hanumesh G, district secretary, AIUTUC, said, "On July 20, Minister for Medical Education Dr K Sudhakar announced a wage hike for ASHA workers. However, how much and when this will happen was not mentioned."

K Somashekar Yadgiri, state president, AIUTUC, said, "Rural healthcare has collapsed ever since ASHA workers went on strike. Many mothers and newborns died during labour without the help of ASHA workers, which is not being reported."

He said the number of Covid cases in the state would be much higher if ASHA workers were on duty, as they have been instrumental in getting people tested, especially in rural areas. Only half the workers have received ₹3,000, they alleged.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

29th July : The prevailing Sun-Jupiter alignment is one of optimism and enlightenment. The downside is a tendency to selfishness, but the positive angle is seen in unrestrained generosity. Usually I'd say that commonsense might go out of the window, but I don't think that's a problem today, thanks to that wise planet, Saturn. At least, I hope not!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You can work with your horoscope, rather than waiting around while fate makes up your mind for you. The only way to cope successfully with your current transits is to build as broad a basis of support as you can. Your social relationships will act as a safety net, preserving you from a promised hard landing.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
I am sure that a loved one has been all too ready to pursue a cavalier approach. It has been easy to dodge personal issues by immersing yourself in work or some other worldly ambition, but perhaps you do now need to face up to intimate, deeply emotional questions.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
Push yourself to the limit. The best estimation of your prospects indicates that you must make up for lost time in addition to coping with fresh responsibilities. Don't fall back on old excuses to avoid facing your destiny. Have courage, Gemini!

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
Certain doors may now have to be closed. I am not telling you to turn your back on opportunity, but I do think that you should be more selective in future. Concentrate your energy on areas which are bound to bring success, and avoid time-wasting offers.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You are almost certainly unaware of deeper planetary movements which are even now affecting the most hidden recesses of your psyche. But do be assured that for the rest of the year, authority, tradition and stability are the keywords in your personal life.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
There's no rest for the wicked, as the old saying goes. There's no rest for you either, so you may as well recognise that relaxation will be in short supply. Keep your nose to the grindstone and get as much done as you can. The more you do now, the more time you'll have off later on.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
All you have to do is be yourself. Easy advice, I know. I also realise that this may be the hardest thing in the world to achieve, but there's no harm in trying, is there? The general planetary picture is very optimistic, so set off with a song in your heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
There's been a great deal of talk lately about the need to save face. This is a concept which means a great deal to you, and people you live with had better recognise this. The best way to placate you is to make you feel that you've won - even if you haven't!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Reassuring relationships connect Mars, Jupiter and other helpful planets. In plain language this means that personal relationships dovetail with overseas links. A perfect time for a long-distance trip perhaps? You should certainly pay special attention to all foreign connections.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
The benevolent planet Jupiter balances the aggressive planet Mars. The result? Well, for a start, I'd say you're being set up for an increase in your earnings. Luck doesn't come into it. Instead it's all thanks to your own hard work. Give yourself a pat on the back.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
It will be a rare individual who doesn't recognise that every difficulty conceals a host of benefits. There is so much going for you at the moment that you may finally have your cake - and eat it! Other people may be envious of what they see, rightly or wrongly, as your good fortune.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
There is good in everyone and a bright side to every offer. In many respects you will fare better than most people, if only because what is awkward for them comes perfectly naturally to you. May I remind you that this is no time for moral back-sliding, so stiffen that back-bone!

THE PHANTOM

A LION'S DEAD, THEN ALIVE... MY OLD ENEMY, CHATU THE WANGSI...
DEVIL, NONE OF IT SEEMS REAL! HOW COULD IT BE?
WE'RE GETTING OUT OF HERE, STARTING NOW...
THE LLONGO WERE RIGHT, THESE WOODS ARE BAD JUJU.
Falk

HI AND LOIS

BEETLE BAILEY

BLONDIE

WE WOULD LIKE TO CATER A GREEN PARTY FOR EARTH DAY
TOTALLY GREEN! NO PLASTIC OR PAPER PRODUCTS!
I HAVE AN IDEA
HOW ABOUT I SERVE THE FOOD ON GREEN CERAMIC PLATES?!
WELL, NOW YOU'RE JUST MOCKING US!
NO, SERIOUSLY..

LOCKHORNS

"WHAT AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT... NO SEQUEL, PREQUEL OR REMAKE!"

DENNIS THE MENACE

"I'M NOT DIZZY... I THINK WATCHIN' ALL THAT NEWS MADE MY HEAD SPIN!"

Test your number crunching skill with our unique puzzle

SUDOKU

		8	4				5	
9				5				
7				6			9	8
			9					
5	9			8			4	2
					5			
8	1			4				6
				2				7
	4				6	1		

EVIL

- Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.
- Each sudoku has a unique solution that can be reached logically without guessing.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

7	4	6	9	2	3	5	1	8
9	8	1	7	4	5	6	2	3
2	5	3	1	8	6	7	9	4
5	3	4	2	9	7	1	8	6
8	7	2	3	6	1	9	4	5
6	1	9	8	5	4	2	3	7
1	2	5	6	3	8	4	7	9
4	9	8	5	7	2	3	6	1
3	6	7	4	1	9	8	5	2

JUMBLE — THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUPEA
VINGE
TANTEB
VONPER

Three more! Fifteen to twelve!
The views are great from here.
Look at the town down there!
THE MOUNTAINTOP BASKETBALL COURT FEATURED ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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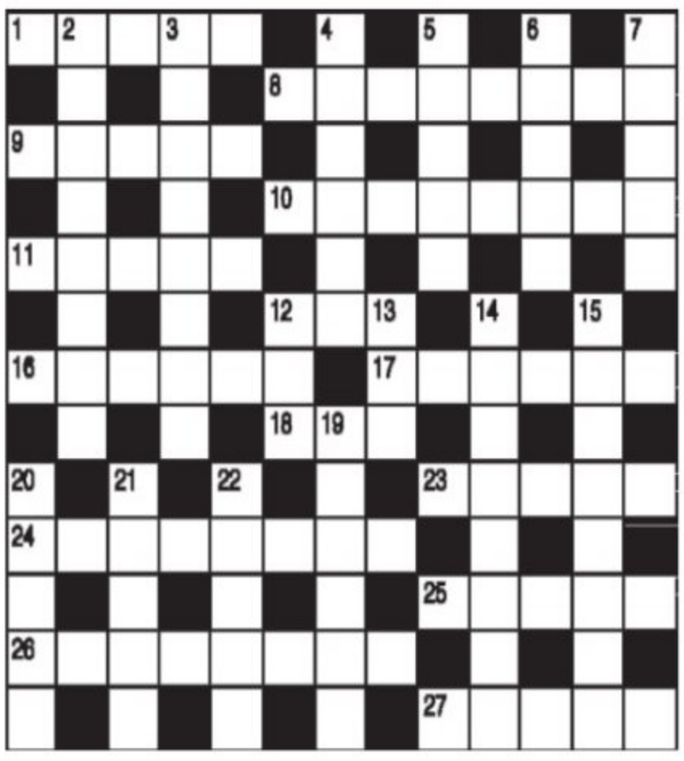
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MIGHT IRONY SPLASH MADDER
Answer: When Richard Gere starred in the movie "Pretty Woman," he was — PAID HANDSOMELY

CROSS WORD



ACROSS

1 Gets excited about a point reached in development (5)
8 Took part with spirit on an instrument (4,4)
9 Heaped like carpets? (5)
10 Emphasises the potential of an Oriental artiste (8)
11 Don is produced theatrically (3,2)
12 One may see one in the museum of Natural History (3)
16 Note carrier soaked and all in (6)
17 She's involved in stage, films and radio (6)
18 Get on with some notes (3)
23 A portion of rhubarb jam (5)
24 Taken ill (8)
25 They drift for the present on board ship (5)
26 Shot by firing squad and carried out (8)
27 The kind that turns green (5)

DOWN

2 Food in test case is exhibited in court (8)
3 Beer long brewed in France (8)
4 Two lads, one suffers (6)
5 I drew out something strange (5)
6 Western ceremony put down (5)
7 An inspiration to entertain (5)
12 Initially when to expect a letter from Greece (3)
13 Purposeful employment? (3)
14 Conceivably isn't acne in this case (8)
15 Conflict in which counter charges may be the deciding factor (5,3)
19 A warm spring we hear for an old man (6)
20 Tongue of land between Italy and Turkey (5)
21 It has a shaky reputation as a writer (5)
22 Enter into an American business contract with ancient city (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Antagonist, 6 Ring, 10 Siren, 11 Champagne, 12 Esurient, 13 Latin, 15 Croesus, 17 Esparto, 19 Reddens, 21 Dresses, 22 Aesop, 24 East wind, 27 Off-colour, 28 Refer, 29 Liar, 30 Ethereally.

Down: 1 Also, 2 Threshold, 3 Goner, 4 Nucleus, 5 Seattle, 7 Ingot, 8 Greenhouse, 9 Apple pie, 14 Score a goal, 16 Sheepdog, 18 Resentful, 20 Step out, 21 Deserve, 23 Sofia, 25 Worse, 26 Fray.

Bengaluru police on Monday arrested a gang of nine who took Rs 70 lakh as payment to kill a businessman and his family. Police said they prevented four murders by arresting the gang which includes Chetan Kumar, Raju, Satish Kumar, Shivakumar Obalaiah, Arjun, Amith, Nagesh and Devaraj.

Take it or leave it, MLAs told

Most appointees to boards agree to take charge as leaders tell them to cut out fuss

ANUSHA RAVI @Bengaluru

A DAY after appointments to 20 boards and corporations, dissenting voices are slowly fizzling out as realisation has dawned on the MLAs that there are no takers for their tantrums. So most appointees have either voluntarily agreed to take charge or have been asked to cut out the fuss by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa's close circle. As for the few who are still sulking, a call from Yediyurappa is expected to do the trick. With Yediyurappa ensuring that State BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel is on the same page on appointments, dissenters see no choice but to accept the appointments else lose out on the positions.

"Although I would have liked to be in the cabinet, I understand the circumstances under which the party came to power. I will not create a fuss or reject the post and embarrass the government and the Chief Minister," said Araga Jnanendra, appointed as the chief of Karnataka Housing Board.

A majority of the appointments made on Monday are MLAs from North Karnataka and a sizeable chunk from the Lingayat community -- most seen as close to Yediyurappa. "I will take charge in the first week of August. Will meet the Chief Minister when I visit Bengaluru," said former minister Kalakappa Bandi now appointed as Chief of KSSIDC.

Many MLAs who had expressed displeasure or had chosen to maintain a defiant silence over their appointments have now come to accept the posts after conversations with Yediyurappa's close circle including his sons, political secretaries and advisers.

"Even if disappointed MLAs were to form a group and rebel, what will they achieve? BJP is in power and we are aware of how we came to power. At least MLAs are being given some posts if not a cabinet berth," said a BJP office-bearer underlining the helplessness of the MLAs. Yediyurappa is said to have assured to appoint party workers in the next round of postings to boards and corporations which Kateel agreed to.

SAVADI'S VISIT TO DELHI NOT SEEN AS THREAT

While rumour mills are abuzz with social media posts depicting Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi as the next CM, Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa is said to be unperturbed by it. While Laxman Savadi made his absence from the event marking Yediyurappa's one year in office conspicuous and shared photos of his meetings with Union ministers in New Delhi on the same day, sources close to Yediyurappa suggest that the development is not being viewed as a threat to the CM's chair. Savadi is said to have kept the CM in the loop about his New Delhi visit and that he would give the celebrations a miss. Even as the Chief Minister's aides suggest that Savadi's Delhi visits aren't a threat, a section of BJP leaders are viewing it as the DCM's desperate attempt to save his head from the chopping block during the next cabinet rejig.

Will protest if anti-farmer laws not withdrawn, says Gowda

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

HD Deve Gowda addresses the media in Bengaluru on Tuesday | SHRIRAM BN

FORMER PM and JDS president HD Deve Gowda on Tuesday lashed out at the State government for adopting the ordinance route to amend the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, Karnataka Agriculture Produce Marketing Act and Industrial Disputes Act and urged Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa to withdraw them.

"These amendments are retrograde, anti-farmer and anti-labour. In the best interest of farmers and labourers, the government must withdraw them immediately," he told the media. He said he had written three letters to the CM in this regard.

Gowda said amendments to the Land Reforms Act are detrimental to the farm sector, and that farmers would lose their lands and become homeless as the government action would only help realtors. It would be a death knell for farmers and the government must realize its mistake and withdraw it, Gowda said.

On the amendment to the APMC Act, the JDS leader said it allows big businesses to buy and sell agriculture produce from the farmers directly, which bypasses the regulated marketing committees, while the amendment to the Industrial Disputes Act give owners of any firm the power to adopt a "hire and fire policy" and the government will not have any control over firms.

"We do not want to violate Covid-19 guidelines and that was why I kept quiet. But now, I decided to speak as the amendments would have an adverse impact on people of the State," he said. "They should not do such an injustice to people only because they have majority. If the government fails to withdraw the acts, we will stage protests across the state," he said, adding, that he himself would hit the streets. On August 1, he has called a meeting of his party leaders to discuss the future course of action.

Covid package

On the economic package announced by the state government to help people hit due to the Covid-19 lockdown, the former PM said, everyone knows how much of that money reached the people and how much was wasted. "The Congress has accused the government of Rs 2,000 crore misappropriation in purchase of medical equipment and we do not know if we should protest against it or not. Several instances in the past show that those involved in corruption have got more power, but that doesn't mean we will keep quiet and tolerate the government's indifferent attitude. It must realize its mistakes and take measures to fight the pandemic," Gowda said.

daCunha/AB/702

HDK SLAMS CONG, CALLS PARTY EXPERT IN 'HORSE-TRADING'

Former CM and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy on Tuesday slammed the Congress and its campaign to "save democracy". In a series of tweets, he hit out at the Congress, its former coalition partner, and accused it of luring BSP MLAs who supported the Congress to form the government in Rajasthan. If the Congress is dividing like-minded party MLAs supporting it through deceit, who would support the party, he said. He also accused the Congress of trying to divide the regional party in the state. "When SM Krishna was the CM, didn't the Congress buy our MLAs? Didn't the Congress conspire to form a government after the 2018 Assembly polls by buying our MLAs? Does Congress have the moral courage to answer these questions?" he said.

Nadda gives push to street vendor loan scheme

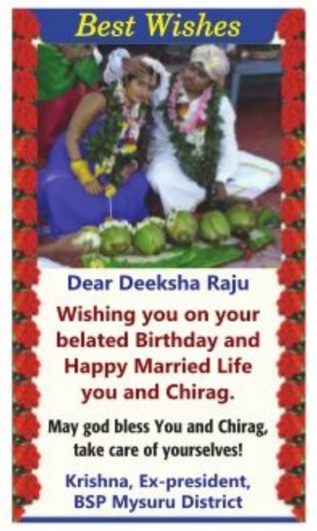
EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

CM BS Yediyurappa with other BJP leaders in Bengaluru on Tuesday | EXPRESS

AS part of the party's efforts to publicise Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi scheme, BJP national president JP Nadda chaired a video conference of all BJP CMs. BS Yediyurappa, who was part of the meet on Tuesday, was asked to ensure more street vendors in Karnataka avail loans under the scheme. The meeting, initially expected to be chaired by Union Minister Prakash Javdekar, was addressed by Nadda. It comes three days after PM Narendra Modi reviewed the micro-credit facility. The PM SVANidhi scheme was announced to provide collateral-free loans of up to Rs 10,000 as working capital for one year.

Nadda is said to have conveyed to Yediyurappa to streamline the process of identifying street vendors, create a database and facilitate online applications for those in need. DyCM Dr CN Ashwath Narayan, and Labour Minister Shivaram Hebbar were also at the meeting where Karnataka presented its data on assistance provided to hawkers so far.

The state government apprised Nadda of its 'Badavara Bandhu' scheme - an interest-free loan scheme.


Best Wishes
Dear Deeksha Raju
Wishing you on your belated Birthday and Happy Married Life you and Chirag.
May god bless You and Chirag, take care of yourselves!
Krishna, Ex-president, BSP Mysuru District

Removal of Tipu lesson is part of BJP agenda, says Opposition

PEARL MARIA D'SOUZA @Bengaluru

WHILE it did appear that Tipu Sultan was not the only target of the exercise to slice off parts of the school syllabus on Monday, a member of the ruling party claimed that the move was deliberate, and a controversial person should not be projected as a hero to children.

Anwar Manipaddy of the BJP said that regardless of whether the syllabus revision had to do with Covid or not, it was good that the lesson on Tipu Sultan was dropped. "He was a controversial person who had harmed the people of the Karnataka and Kerala," Manipaddy said. He went on to say that the "lesson was not truncated, but removed on purpose because he (Tipu) was a controversial man".

The Opposition has been extremely critical about the government's move to revise the syllabus. KPCC president D K Shivakumar said the BJP wants to "make its personal agenda a historical agenda", and this is unacceptable, and will be taken up seriously. "You can't change history, whether we celebrate Tipu Jayanti or not is a different issue," he said.

All India Congress Committee (AICC) spokesperson and Supreme Court advocate Brijesh Kalappa said the Congress will protest and look at legal remedies. "Although the government had to chop the syallabi of many subjects, it chose specific subjects that are inconvenient to the BJP, which wants to provide children unwholesome education and create a highly bigoted mindset," he said.

JDS national spokesperson Tanveer Ahmed termed it a "diversionary tactic" of the BJP because CM Yediyurappa has failed to deal with the Covid crisis, and has not yet resolved the flood problem. Congress MLA Priyank Kharge called it a "systematic eradication of intellectual capital."

Managing Director of Karnataka Text Book Society Madegowda said that the move was temporary. "They are neither removed from the textbooks nor the syllabus. The schedule is only for this year," he said.

Prefabricated agenda: Archbishop

While the chapters on Christianity and Islam, and teachings of Jesus Christ and Prophet Mohammed have been dropped, with claims that these religious figures and their teachings figure in Class 9, Bengaluru diocese Archbishop Peter Machado told the media, "The lesson was moved from Class 6 to Class 9. When you go to Class 9, it says the lesson was done in Class 6." "This looks like a prefabricated agenda to not show the contribution, greatness and tenets of Islam and Christianity. Children at this age absorb these things, and are the best ambassadors of communal harmony," he said,.

EXPRESS READ

Udupi man nabbed for selling child porn videos

Bengaluru: The Cyber Crime police have arrested an Udupi-based man for allegedly sharing child pornography. Saurav Shetty (21) was caught following a. A case was registered at the Cyber Crime police station on July 7 following a top-off Cyber Tipline Report from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). "A team traced the man and secured him in Bengaluru. He had a huge number of child pornographic videos on digital devices and social media accounts, and sold them through links shared on Instagram," an official release said.

FEDBANK

Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. having corporate office at Kanakia Wall Street, A-Wing, 5th Floor, Unit No. 501-502, 511 to 513 Andheri – Kurla Road, Chakala, Andheri East, Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400093

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **23rd May, 2019** calling upon the Borrower, Mortgagor Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor **(1) M/s BSR Enterprises ("Borrower & Mortgagor") (2) Mr. G Praveen Kumar Reddy ("Co-Borrower") (3) Mr. B Raghvendra Reddy ("Co-Borrower")(4) BSR Builders Engineers and Contractors (Guarantor)** to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being **Rs.4,58,44,953/- (Rupees Four Crore Fifty Eight Lakh Forty Four thousand Nine hundred Fifty Three Only)** as on 22nd May, 2019together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus all costs charges and incidental expenses etc. within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said demand notice.

The Borrower, Mortgagor Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor having failed to repay the above said amount within the Specific period, notice is hereby given to the Borrower. Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned Authorized officer has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules. 2002 on this the **24th July of the year 2020**.

The Borrower, Mortgagor, Co-Borrower(s) and Guarantor mentioned hereinabove in particular and the public in general is/are hereby cautioned not to deal with the following property and any dealings with the following property will be subject to the charge of Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. for an amount of **Rs. 4,58,44,953/-(Rupees Four Crore Fifty Eight Lakh Forty Four thousand Nine hundred Fifty Three Only)** together with further interest thereon at the contractual rate plus all costs charges and incidental expense's etc.

The borrower's attention is invited to sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Schedule-

Description of Property

(Particulars of the immovable property mortgaged to the Fedbank Financial Services Ltd)

ALL THAT twenty six (26) unsold residential flats in the residential building known as **"BSR KOORLA RESIDENCY"** together with undivided right, title and interest in the parcel of land bearing Survey No.56/2 admeasuring 27 Guntas situated at Kogilu village. Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk (within the limits of BBMP), being bounded as follows

North by : Kogilu Road South by : Private Property

East by: Private Property West by : Private Property

The list of the Unsold Flats are:

Sr. No.	Unit No.	Type of Unit 1/2/3/ BHK	Saleable Area in Sq.ft.	Sr. No.	Unit No.	Type of Unit 1/2/3/ BHK	Saleable Area in Sq.ft.
1	G4	2 bhk	1,001	14	216	3 bhk	1,457
2	G8	2 bhk	1,101	15	302	2 bhk	1,054
3	101	2 bhk	1,054	16	305	2 bhk	1,062
4	102	2 bhk	1,054	17	306	2 bhk	1,062
5	103	2 bhk	1,054	18	307	2 bhk	1,116
6	107	2 bhk	1,116	19	308	2 bhk	1,198
7	113	2 bhk	1,180	20	309	2 bhk	1,068
8	116	3 bhk	1,457	21	311	2 bhk	1,160
9	201	2 bhk	1,097	22	312	2 bhk	1,014
10	204	2 bhk	1,054	23	313	2 bhk	1,014
11	206	2 bhk	1,062	24	314	2 bhk	1,093
12	202	2 bhk	1,054	25	106	2 bhk	1,062
13	212	2 bhk	1,014	26	316	3 bhk	1,457
							29,115

Place:- Bangalore
Date- 29th July 2020

(Authorized Officer)
Fedbank Financial Services Ltd

Govt. of Bihar

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
CENTRE FOR RIVER STUDIES

INVITATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR, CENTRE FOR RIVER STUDIES

The Centre for River Studies (CRS) is an Autonomous Institution set up at the Aryabhatta Knowledge University, Patna by the Government of Bihar for imparting quality teaching and promoting relevant applied research in the field of river basin management. The CRS aims to become a leading national institution contributing to river basin study and management. The most important task of the CRS is to work with governments, society and other stakeholders to maintain the natural integrity of rivers for sustained benefits for people. It is expected that the CRS will help to generate and disseminate knowledge on rivers to technocrats, policy makers, executives and other stakeholders for the best use of rivers and to minimize loss of the precious resource.

The CRS invites applications from eligible individuals in the prescribed format. The ideal candidate will be a dynamic leader with substantial experience and achievements in the area of River Science. The Director will be appointed by the state government from the short listed panel of candidates prepared by the search committee constituted for the purpose.

1. **Name of Post** : Director
2. **Scale of Pay** : Rs. 2,10,000/- + other allowances as per the State Government Rules. (The salary may be negotiable).
3. **Job Description** :

The Director, CRS will have the overall administrative control of the Centre and will provide high level leadership to the Centre in identification of teaching and research programmes and projects of national and international relevance in various specialized fields of research undertaken by the centre. He/She will enthuse and motivate scientists of the Centre; promote creativity and excellence and create an atmosphere conducive to harmonious functioning of the Centre. He/She will interact and establish rapport with national and international, academic and professional institutions and specialists dealing with the domain area of research undertaken by the Centre and will ensure multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional co-operation towards

fulfillment of the objectives of the Centre.

4. **Mode of Recruitment** :

The recruitment to the post of Director shall be made by Direct recruitment.

5. **Age limit** : Not exceeding 65 years as on 01.06.2020.
6. **Educational and other qualification** :

Essential : (1) Ph. D. in the field related to River Systems or civil engineering with good academic record.

(2) At least ten years of experience as Professor of the concerned subject. **Desirable** :a. Original published work of high standard in the area of river science and management

b. Evidence of high professional achievements by way of recognitions like fellowships of academies, national/international awards in science etc.

c. Demonstrated high level of competence through scientific output in area of river science and management.

7. **Tenure**

Three years. The candidates shall be eligible for reappointment for another term of three years if government desires, subject to age of superannuation.

8. **Age of superannuation** :

70 (seventy) years.

9. **Last date and time for receipt of application**:

Application in the prescribed form should reach **Special Secretary, Education Department, (M.No. 8544003165) New Secretariat, Vikas Bhawan, Patna, Bihar-pin-800001 latest by 5.30 P.M. on 16-08-2020 through E Mail Id and Speed Post.**

The prescribed application form is available on the website**"www.education.bih.nic.in"** from where it should be downloaded to apply for.

E Mail Id- bih.higheredu@gmail.com

(Rekha Kumari)
Director, Higher Education
Education Department, Bihar
Mob. No. 9472178338

PR. No. 004300 (Education) 2020-21

नोवल कोरोना के संबंध में विस्तृत जानकारी एवं सहयोग हेतु Toll Free No.: **104** पर संपर्क कर सकते हैं।
स्वास्थ्य सामग्री- संबंधी किसी तरह की जानकारी अथवा सुझाव हेतु दूरभाष संख्या 0612-2217636 पर सम्पर्क किया जा सकता है।

PARADIP PORT TRUST

First Corrigendum to e-TENDER-CALL NOTICE

Name of the work "Construction, Supply, Installation & Commissioning of M.S. Buoys with Solar Powered Lanterns at Mahanandi River" & "Maintenance of said M.S. Buoys with Solar Powered Lanterns for a period of 3 years'.

With reference to the above e-tender, the last dates for submission & opening of bids are **EXTENDED** as follows : Bid Submission end date : 13.08.2020, 15:00 Hrs., Tender (Technical Bid) Opening Date : 14.08.2020, 15:30 Hrs. Except the above, all other terms & conditions remain unchanged. For further details, please log on to the Website : **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

Dy. Conservator, Paradip Port Trust
PPT/PR/144/20-21 Dated: 28.7.2020

KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India
State Office : Jhalana Doongari, Institutional Area, Jaipur (Raj.)-302004
Ph. : 0141-2707850 Email : kvicjpr@gmail.com Website : www.kvic.org.in

INVITATION OF TENDERS

Sealed Tenders are invited for Selection of suppliers for Apis mellifera Bee boxes (BIS Standard Type-"C") Hut Type with respect to live bee colonies and tool kits for Rajasthan. The tender document can be downloaded from KVIC website **www.kvic.org.in** or may be purchased from State Office, KVIC, Jaipur on payment of Rs. 2000/- by Cash or DD in favour of **"KVIC-EST account, payable at Jaipur"** from 01.08.2020 to 20.08.2020 (upto 4.30 PM) on working days.

Badri Lal Meena,
State Director

QuoteExpress IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING › WINSTON CHURCHILL

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

COVID-19

04 BENGALURU WEDNESDAY 29.07.2020

TRACKING COVID-19

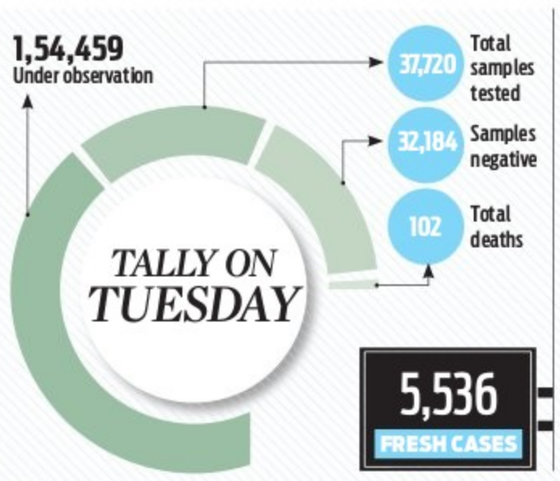
Minister for Medical Education Dr K Sudhakar tweeted that media channels reported he was in contact with his personal secretary who is Covid positive and that he needs to be quarantined. He said that he tested negative and doesn't need to be quarantined

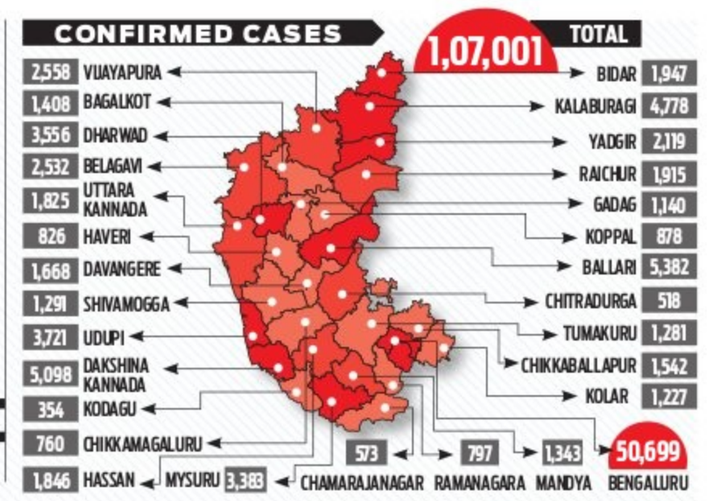
2,819 NEW RECOVERIES

40,504 TOTAL RECOVERED

HELPLINES
080-46848600
080-66692000

104 Arogya Sahayavani will function too





ADDING INFRA

Two B'luru hospitals to set up ICUs

RANJANI MADHAVAN @Bengaluru

AS the number of Covid patients requiring intensive care increases in the city, the government is ramping up ICU (Intensive Care Unit)facilities. Both Epidemic Diseases Hospital and Sir CV Raman General Hospital, which are already dedicated to Covid health centres (DCHC), are set to become dedicated Covid Hospitals (DCH) with the construction of ICUs.

"DCHCs are supposed to admit patients with oxygen saturation levels of 90-95%, but we are getting patients with 80-60% levels. We are ramping up the infrastructure to include 20 ICU beds apart from our existing 130 general ward beds. It will be ready by next week," said Dr H D R Radhakrishna, medical superintendent, CV Raman General Hospital.

Twenty ventilators are being procured for the ICU in this hospital. Additional staff will be recruited either directly by the hospital or by the health department. Six to seven nurses and three doctors trained in intensive care or emergency medicine will be required.

The construction of ICUs has just begun at Epidemic Diseases Hospital and could be ready by August-end. At present, 29 of 40 Covid beds are occupied in the hospital's general ward.

"We are setting up 30 beds in the ICU and plan to have 26 to 30 ventilators. We will need at least 45 staff nurses apart from senior doctors," said Dr Ansar Ahmed, medical superintendent of the hospital and district surgeon.

Covaxin trials take off, volunteers invited

Belagavi hospital to take in people after blood and swab tests; volunteers to be filtered, administered doses and monitored

A visitor at Vidhana Soudha goes through a face sensor-cum-thermal screening device at the West Gate, which checks if visitors are wearing a mask | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

THE human clinical trials of BBV152 Covid-19 vaccine, or Covaxin, began at Belagavi-based hospital Jeevan Rekha, one of the 12 centres selected by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The clinical tests of Covaxin, the indigenously developed Covid vaccine, has already begun in some of the centres, including AIIMS.

Director of Jeevan Rekha Dr Amit Bhate told TNIE that his hospital began with screening volunteers who have come forward willingly to undergo the Covaxin trial. "We collected blood and swab samples, which are tested in the initial stage of clinical trials. Only those volunteers who are found negative for Covid-19 and whose blood is found normal, will be given the first and second dose of Covaxin," said Bhate.

It takes at least 48 hours to determine the status of volunteers after their blood and swab samples are drawn, he said. Once both the doses of Covaxin are administered to the volunteers, the hospital will keep a tab on their health condition, and their blood samples will be collected every month for testing.

> We will stop the process midway if the volunteer decides to withdraw even in the last stage, before the vaccine is administered. The consent letters of the volunteers will be submitted to DG of ICMR, and then enrolment is done as per rules
>
> Dr Amit Bhate, Director of Jeevan Rekha

"We will have to check the tested volunteers regularly to ascertain the quantity of antibodies developed in their blood, besides details about their immune system. Once the immune system of the tested patients reaches a certain level, the ICMR will calculate it. All the samples are regularly sent to ICMR, which will take a final call on when to release the vaccine finally," Dr Bhate said.

The Oxford vaccine seems to have reached a good level, and plans are afoot to release it. At most of the trial centres, clinical trials are still in the initial stage. Jeevan Rekha wants to perform the entire process of clinical tests of the vaccine in an ethical manner, by taking the consent of each one of the volunteers. "We will stop the process midway if the volunteer decides to withdraw even in the last stage, before the vaccine is administered. The consent letters of the volunteers will be submitted to DG of ICMR, and then enrolment is done as per rules," he said.

Jeevan Rekha has invited volunteers — aged between 18 and 55 years — to come forward for the tests.

DUD GATEWAY

A defunct disinfection tunnel at Kidwai Hospital's entrance in Bengaluru on Tuesday. This is despite the fact that families of patients continue to visit the hospital | PANDARINATH B

All Covid-related apps to come under one platform: Minister

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THERE will be a centralised system in place to classify asymptomatic, symptomatic and mildly symptomatic Covid patients, Medical Education Minister **Dr K Sudhakar** said on Tuesday, and patients will be recommended treatment based on the severity of their cases.

"Various existing apps related to Covid will be brought under one platform to get realtime information, which will assist in strategising allocation of hospitals and beds to those in need. This will probably remove the delay in bed allocation and treatment being faced now. The patients will get all information in one phone call," he said in a statement.

Sudhakar spoke with a team of experts from the government and Infosys regarding the same through video conference.

Referring to the company 'Step 1', which is providing such services in Delhi and Madhya Pradesh, the minister said that a similar system will be implemented in Karnataka as well. The company has a team of doctors and nurses who guide people on whether they need hospital treatment or home isolation, after they have tested positive.

"More than 70% of the positive cases are asymptomatic or mild symptomatic, and are advised to go for home isolation. The load on hospitals will reduce and severe cases can be administered proper treatment. Infosys will coordinate with the government to provide technical support for this system," Sudhakar added. Chief secretary, Infosys representatives, and Principal Secretary - ITBT were present during the video conference.

The minister also held a video conference with heads of private medical colleges to review Covid-19 preparedness, where they were instructed to provide treatment for non-Covid patients too. He enquired about the tests conducted in private medical colleges, deployment of staff for the purpose, and number of corona cases being treated at each hospital.

WORRYING FIGURES

Records every day; State grapples with fatality rate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

WITH each passing day, Karnataka continues to beat its own record when it comes to Covid-19 cases.

On Wednesday, 5,536 positive cases were reported, taking the state's tally to 1,07,001 cases.

For the past six days, the state has been consistently crossing the 5,000-mark. Just in the last six days, Karnataka recorded 31,168 cases ,but this spike in numbers can also be attributed to increased rapid antigen tests being administered since July 18.

On Wednesday, the maximum number of cases — 1,898 - were from Bengaluru Urban alone. Ballari followed with 452 cases, Kalaburagi with 283, Belagavi with 228 and Mysuru with 220.

The last six days have also seen a high number of deaths. A total of 538 people succumbed to the virus in the last week. The state is trying to bring down its fatality rate below 1 per cent, but it still stands at 2 per cent, as per the Covid War Room report.

Only four districts have managed to keep their fatality rate below 1 per cent - Mandya (0.8%), Bengaluru Rural (0.6 %), Udupi (0.4%) and Yadgir (0.1%). A total of 102 deaths were recorded on Wednesday, 57 of whom had diabetes and 64 had hypertension.

Majority deaths — 40 — were reported from Bengaluru Urban. With this, the state's death toll stands at 2,055, with Bengaluru Urban inching towards a 1,000 fatalities.

The number of discharges on Wednesday were 2,819, 572 patients from Bengaluru, 529 from Ballari, 201 from Vijayapara, 200 from Dakshina Kannada and 152 from Chikkaballapura.

Had to use my influence to get my niece treated: Sudha Rani

IFFATH FATHIMA @Bengaluru

AROUND 11.45 pm on Monday, Kannada actress Sudha Rani rushed her 32-year-old niece, who had acute pain due to kidney stones, to a private hospital. However, the hospital is said to have refused admission even after multiple requests and she could get her niece treated only after calling people in high places.

Medical Education Minister Sudhakar K tweeted that they would take action against the hospital.

Speaking to TNIE, Sudha Rani said that her niece was in acute pain and yet the doctor refused treatment stating the beds were full. She said pleading with the hospital staff for an hour did not yield any result.

"My niece has kidney stones and she frequently gets acute pain. Her temperature was high and we rushed her to the nearby Apollo Hospital on Seshadri Road. We were asked to go to another hospital. They had an emergency room and it was empty. I would have understood if it was full."

> Bhaskar Rao was very helpful. He asked them to take my niece in and only then she was called inside. They gave her basic treatment and after a while my niece started feeling better and they told us that she needed a ventilator. When we asked why she needed a ventilator, there was no response
>
> Sudha Rani, Actress

Meanwhile, looking at her niece's condition, Sudha called Police Commissioner Bhaskar Rao and informed him about her plight. According to Sudha, the top cop spoke to the hospital management. "Bhaskar Rao was very helpful. He asked them to take my niece in and provide treatment and only then she was called inside. They gave her basic treatment and after a while my niece started feeling better and they told us that she needed a ventilator and told us to shift her to another hospital. When we asked why she needed a ventilator, there was no response. However, we started looking for other hospitals and got a bed at Ramaiah Memorial Hospital and shifted her around 5 am."

She added, "Just because I could speak to the Police Commissioner, I could get the hospital to treat my niece. What can the common man do in such circumstances? Strict action needs to be taken against such hospitals."

Meanwhile, Minister Sudhakar tweeted, "The news is that Actress Sudharani had gone to the hospital and Sheshadripuram apollo Hospital delayed the treatment. Disciplinary action will be taken against the private hospital."

When contacted, Apollo Hospital did not respond.

Workers fix a banner on a barricade near Siddaiah Road, in Bengaluru | MEGHANA SASTRY

Pvt hospitals may have to pay crores in refunds

BANSY KALAPPA @Bengaluru

AFTER over 20 patients were refunded money by a private hospital in RR Nagar following a government fiat, many other patients admitted from June 23 onwards are hopeful that even they may get their money back under the same government quota. The new rule specifies 50 per cent beds to be reserved for Covid care.

Most private hospitals, however, have not given 50 per cent beds. So, when this rule is invoked in right earnest, it is expected to trigger a major storm.

Now, a senior IAS officer has raised this issue with the government, according to sources in Vidhana Soudha. He has suggested that all those who fall under the government quota and who have paid more than the government specified rates be refunded keeping in with the new rule.

The IAS officer taking up this issue could mean the government would voluntarily start refunding those who come under the 50 per cent quota, without any more delays, because that is what the rule mandates.

This rule was invoked recently by bureaucrats Harsh Gupta and Roopa Moudgil when they went to a private hospital in RR Nagar and got lakhs of rupees in refund to patients. The logic they used was that the hospital should have given 60 beds, 50 per cent of their capacity of 120. But since they gave only 36 beds, they asked them to give 24 more. And once the hospital gave the beds, they asked them to refund the extra amounts they had collected for those beds from June 23 because technically they come under the quota.

There are about 320 private hospitals which have about 12,000 beds. If the 50 per cent rule for government quota is enforced, it would mean tens of crores by way of refund. When contacted, R Ravindra, president of Private Hospitals Association, said. " I don't want to comment at this stage."

But private hospital sources said, this could trigger panic as they are already financially stressed. Out of 384 hospitals, 58 have closed and another 25-26 could shut shop if things get difficult. If they have to make large payments by way of refunds, the hospital association, source said, many more will have to shut down.

They complained that in many instances they have had to double the salaries of employees just to keep them and if this burden of refund falls on them, they will have a very difficult time.

GRAND RECEPTION

Mind it, Rajini fan gives fan-tastic welcome to corona warrior wife

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Tumakuru

WHO says Rajini-kant? Or for that matter, Rajini fan can't? Ramachandra Rao, an event manager and superstar Rajinikanth's fan, gave a grand red-carpet welcome to his wife Kalavathi K L who returned home after recovering from Covid-19. Kalavathy, a staff nurse, attached to the designated Covid-19 hospital, did not expect such a grand welcome.

A couple of weeks ago, Kalavathy tested positive and had to leave her husband and ten-year-old daughter home at Srirama Nagara here. The residents who were pleasant to them until then suddenly turned hostile. Having faced the stigma and social taboo, Rao decided to make his wife's coming home, a big event. And being an event manager, he ensured a red-carpet welcome for her with women showering petals on her. And shot the entire event for posterity. He was so happy that his wife was back fully recovered, he honoured District surgeon Dr T A Veerabhadraiah and all the staff with fruits, garlands and bouquets.

Ramchandra Rao welcomes his wife Kalavathy to their home after she recovered from Covid, in Tumakuru | EXPRESS

"Yes, I am a cent per cent fan of Rajinikanth sir and my family's interest is paramount for me, especially my wife. Our house was sealed down for ten days and we were eager to see her back," said Rao.

"I had great will power and I was confident that I would recover. Having worked in the Covid-19 ward for over three months, I had seen many people recovering fast," remarked Kalavathy who will be resuming her duty in the designated hospital on August 1.

Her joy overflowed as she got an opportunity to talk to none other than Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa as part of his programme to talk to Covid warriors on the completion of one year in office on Monday.

The CCB police arrested three people including a woman for allegedly running a prostitution racket, and rescued two women. Police said the sex racket was spread across various lodges in the city. "Based on a tip off, the trio were caught at a lodge in Hulimavu. Cash and several mobile phones were seized from the accused," police said

Parrikar compromised on Mahadayi, say biographers, set off a new row

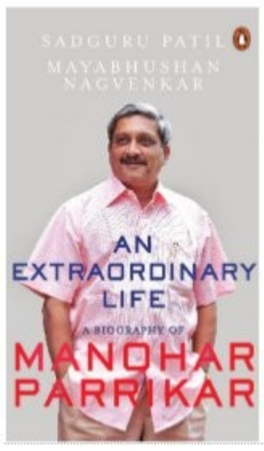
Goa Chief Minister Sawant takes offence, says it is a wrong image of the state leader

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @Belagavi

FORMER Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar initiated the state's legal battle to stake the rightful claim over the Mahadayi river and did not compromise Goa's interests as depicted by the authors of a biography on Parrikar, stated Goa Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant on his Twitter and Facebook accounts.

"Bhai (Parrikar) and his legacy deserve a better tribute! I express my displeasure at such insensitive literature painting a wrong image of Goa's stalwart," Dr Sawant said, indicating that his government is against the diversion of Mahadayi waters (Mandovi in Goa) even as Karnataka is fighting an all-out legal battle in the Supreme Court for its share for the last few decades.

"An Extraordinary Life: A Biography of Manohar Parrikar", authored by Sadguru Patil and Mayabhushan Nagvenkar, both from Goa, dwells on Parrikar's ascent to power.



Reacting to Dr Sawant's comments, Mayabhushan said, "We have said what we had to in our biography. Readers are entitled to their respective opinions." He refused to comment on the CM's stand and said it is up to Sawant to comment.

Referring to Mahadayi, the authors said on page 212 of the book, "Parrikar's politically motivated letter to the hopeful Karnataka BJP CM BS Yediyurappa ahead of the 2018 assembly polls in the southern state, offering to consider the state's demand for drinking water on 'humanitarian grounds' has put Goa on the backfoot vis-a-vis its two-decade-long inter-state dispute over the waters of the Mhadei river."

Parrikar's softening stand on Mahadayi and his decision to share Mahadayi water with Karnataka had not gone down well in Goa as opposition leaders in the Goa assembly, including former CM Digambar Kamat, had severely criticised Parrikar's stand. Many leaders across Goa had questioned Parrikar on why he changed his stand on Mahadayi when Karnataka was going to the polls in 2018.

Activist Ashok Chandargi said Parrikar would think about such major inter-state issues practically. "He was aware of the long-stretched issue of Mahadayi which was getting more entangled. He had offered to share Mahadayi water with Karnataka with the only objective to take the issue to a logical end. He changed his stand only when he realised the importance of this project when he became a minister in the Union cabinet," he said.

CM approves revised project reports on Kalasa-Banduri

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa on Tuesday granted administrative approval for the revised project reports of Kalasa and Banduri canals. The approval was given barely a few weeks after the Centre sought the approval of the state government to add pace to the disputed inter-state water-sharing project. The Union Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change had recently prevailed on the state government to submit fresh proposals for diversion of forest lands to take up Kalasa-Bandura project besides the revised project report.

IAS officers shuffled, Khatri moves to labour

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE State Government transferred at least 12 IAS officers in Karnataka on Tuesday. Interestingly, the Labour Department has got a new head in less than two months.

In May, the State Government transferred senior IAS officer **P Manivannan**, who was Secretary of Labour Department, and Maheshwar Rao took over as secretary, before being transferred again in six weeks. Rajkumar Khatri, who was serving as Additional Chief Secretary of Agriculture Department has been transferred to the Labour Department now.

Additional Chief Secretary of Women and Child Welfare Department Dr Nagambika Devi has been transferred to the Social Welfare Department, while senior IAS officer Kumar Naik who was in the Social Welfare Department, has been transferred to the Women and Child Welfare Department.

IAS officer Manoj Jain, who was serving as Managing Director of Karnataka Public Lands Corporation Ltd, will take charge as Special Commissioner of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) with immediate effect. North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation Managing Director Rajendra Cholan has been transferred to BBMP as Special Commissioner (Finance).

The other IAS officers transferred include R Vinoth Priya, B R Mamtha, Sindhu B Rupesh, Rajendra KV, Darshan H V, H N Gopalkrishna, Kavitha S and Patil Y Shivanagouda.

Was Sindhu transferred after receiving death threat?

ENS@ Mangaluru

IN a sudden development, Dakshina Kannada Deputy Commissioner Sindhu B Rupesh was transferred and replaced by Rajendra KV who was the Belagavi ZP CEO, on Tuesday.

Sindhu was transferred to the post of Director, Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services (EDCS), DP&R (E-governance), Bengaluru. Sources said the transfer order came as a shock to her as she is yet to complete a year in her post. She had taken charge as DK DC in September 2019.

The transfer has raised many eyebrows as it comes close on the heels of Sindhu receiving a death threat for warning of taking legal action against those taking law into their hands and attacking cattle traders.

On Tuesday, Sindhu tweeted saying many are creating confusion regarding transportation of cattle. She said police will take legal action against any illegal cattle transport and appealed people not to pay heed to rumours.

HC junks PIL seeking transfer of Amulya case to NIA

ENS @Bengaluru

THE High Court on Tuesday declined to entertain a PIL filed by an advocate from Mandya, seeking directions to transfer the sedition case against Amulya Leona Noronha to the National Investigation Agency.

The division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka and Justice HP Sandesh said that this is not the case to invoke extraordinary jurisdiction under Article 226 of the Constitution to entrust the matter to the NIA, when looking into the nature of allegations in the FIR, and to direct the trial court to cancel the bail granted to the accused and also to order probe against the investigating officer for alleged delay in filing chargesheet.

The bench passed the order after noting that the petitioner's counsel had not appeared through video conferencing on two occasions to argue, while only appearing once earlier when the matter was up for hearing at the initial stage.

Court stays govt order on cut-off date for pensioners

The High Court recently stayed the order passed by the State, classifying the cut-off date based on the date of retirement for payment of pension. Justice Suraj Govindaraj on July 23 passed the order after hearing a petition filed by Dr K P Sreenath and 26 former teaching staffers of Bangalore University. The court directed the BU to continue payment of pensionary benefits to the petitioners.

Notice ordered to State, Centre over NLSIU reservation

The HC issued notice to the State and Central governments over a plea regarding reservation for Karnataka students at the NLSIU. Balachandar Krishnan, who intended to join the BA LLB (Hons) course at the premier institute, had moved the High Court challenging the Constitutional validity of the National Law School of India (Amendment) Act, 2020.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that my client, **Sri. H. Mahendar Kumar & Smt. Rekha Jain,** both R/of: Wilson Garden, Bangalore are intending to purchase property from Smt. Sushma Gupta, who is the owner as per Release Deed dated 22/06/2007 registered as doc.no. 1013/07-08, stored in CD No. JAYD92 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bangalore in respect of the below mentioned Schedule Property.If any third parties have any objections/ claims/right/title/interest over the same in whatsoever manner, can file their objections/claims within 15 days from the date of this notice to the below mentioned address.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of Independent Villa bearing No. 55/7, measuring about 2,780 Sq. ft. of SBA, facing: East duly constructed on Site No. 55/7, (Property No. 63-31-7), Old CITB Site no. 55 situated at 16th Cross, Wilson Garden, Lakkasandra Extn., Bangalore – 560 027 bearing site dimensions as from East to West: 55 ft. & North to South: 45 ft. totally measuring about 2,475 Sq. ft. including all rights, easements and appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded as:East by: Road,West by: Site No. 46,North by: Site No. 56 &South by: Site No. 54Place: Bangalore Date: **29.07.2020** AdvocatePrithviraj V Aithal # 180, 1st floor, Central Complex, SC Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Residential property described in the schedule below from its present owner, **Sri C.V. Srinivasa Rao @ Yagaty Srinivas,** son of **C.S. Venkataramiah,** residing at no. 43/3 , 5th cross, Kamayaka layout, BSK III stage, III phase, Bangalore-560085. **Aadhar number 336329254723**
Any person/ asserting any right, title, or claim in the schedule property or any part thereof in any manner or the documents thereof against the said owner or objections to intended sale in favour of me, should write to undersigned **within SEVEN DAYS** of the issuance of the public notice with all documentary proof on which they are ascertaining their right with regard to the schedule property or any part thereof and in the absence of which within such period, our client shall proceed to purchase on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regards to the schedule property.
SCHEDULE
All that piece and parcel of Residential House Property bearing **Site No.5A, Katha No.301, formed in Survey No.73/2, duly converted by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore**, vide Conversion Order No.B.DIS.ALN.SR(S) 139/94-95, Dated 4/7/1995,situated at Vajarahally Village, Thalaghattapura Group Panchayath, Uttarhalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring **East to West 25'(Twenty Five) feet**, and **North to South 30'(Thirty) feet,** Totally measuring 750 Square feet, and bounded on:-
East by : Private Property, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Site No.5B, **South by :** Road.
Any claims call Purchaser
Mr.Yashawanth.M.K S/o Mahadevappa, bearing Aadhar No.5425 8521 5750, Mob no. 9686212211

PUBLIC NOTICE

CELSTREAM TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED
Regd. Office: 29/A, 2nd Cross, Electronic City, Phase I, Bengaluru – 560 100.
Phone: 91 80 67404040, CIN: U72900KA2000PTC026960
NOTICE TO EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY
(Transfer of Equity shares of the Company to the Investor Education and Protection Fund ("IEPF") Account of the Government of India)
This Notice is published pursuant to the provisions of the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 as amended by the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2017 ("the Rules") notified by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
The Company has communicated individually to the concerned shareholders who have not claimed dividend for the financial year 2012-13 and whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF Account under the said Rules, for taking appropriate action, and has uploaded details of the concerned shareholders and shares on its website www.celstream.net/iepf#s20.
In case the Company does not receive any communication from the concerned shareholders by October 15, 2020, the Company shall take action to transfer the shares to IEPF Account, pursuant to the Rules. Shareholders may note that both the unclaimed dividend and the shares transferred to IEPF Authority can be claimed back from the IEPF Authority after following the procedure stated in the Rules.
In case the shareholders have any queries on the subject matter and Rules, they may contact the Company.
Bengaluru, July 28, 2020
For Celstream Technologies Private Limited
Naresh Victor, Executive Director,DIN: 00039962

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my client, is intending to purchase the industrial shed bearing No:43/3 (earlier privately numbered as D-23 in second floor of D-Block), with a super built up area of 1991sq.ft.. together with corresponding 318.65/2793 i.e. 1068.38sq.ft. of undivided share and interest in the land of the property bearing No:53/1 (earlier site Nos:36 to 45, carved out of land in Sy.No:53/1, situated at Yediyur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk), now situated at Brigade MM Industrial Estate, Yediyur, Bangalore, Ward No:167-Yediyur (old ward No:59), PID No:59-82-43/3, together with two top covered car parking and bounded on the East by : Lift, Lobby and Staircase area; West by : Unit privately numbered as D-24; North by : Open Space (Set Back area) towards Anjaneya Temple Street; South by : Open Space (Set Back area);, belonging to i) Sri.C Bhaskar Reddy, Son of Late Ramachandra Reddy, ii) Smt.Lakshmi Kantha, Wife of Sri.C Bhaskara Reddy, both residing at No:679, Twelfth Cross, Seventh Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560 082 and iii) Smt.Sandhya R, Wife of Sri.R Raghu Reddy, residing at No:464, Seventh Cross, Seventh Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560 082;
Any, person, having any claim over the above property claiming through the predecessors in title or any other person, may lodge their objections or claims, in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by registered post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within ten (10) days hereof, failing which my client will proceed to conclude the Sale Transaction. Any claims lodged thereafter will not be entertained by my client;
N S SATYANARAYANA GUPTA, K S NAYAK, N S RACHANA N C JANARDHAN, Advocates
Rachana Law Associates, "Lakshmideep", I Floor, No:2980, 17th Cross, Banashankari II Stage, BANGALORE – 560 070; PH : 26761209 / 26765286
Date: 27-07-2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are notified that my client **Sri. M. R. Srinivasa Murthy** S/o late M. S. Ramarao, has negotiated to purchase the Schedule Property shown herein below, from its owner **Sri. Mahenteshappa.H.** S/o Hanumanthappa residing at No.14, 4th Main, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-18. Any person having any rights, title, interest, share, claim, objections, minor claims in respect of the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to send their written objections whatsoever along with documentary proof to the undersigned within **Ten Days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no objections are received within 10 days, my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if no third party claims /objections/ disputes in respect of the Schedule Property.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of Residential Flat bearing No.AKS-3, First Floor, 'Akshaya Apartment' constructed on the old site No.1077, present Corporation property No.1228 formed by the Writers and Artists House Building Co-operative Society Ltd. at Vishwabharathi International Complex Project Layout, Hosakerehalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now comes within the limits of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Ward No.54, P.I.D.No.54-223-1228, situated at 8th 'A' Cross Girinagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore along with 1000 square feet of super built up area and 300 square feet of undivided share with one car parking area in the Basement Floor and bounded on the:
East by : Site No.1084 (New No.1220),
West by : 30 feet road,
North by : Site No.1078 (New No.1227),
South by : Site No.1076 (New No.1229)
J. S. DINESH, Advocate,
74, 'Mathrushree', 12th 'E' Main Road, 76th Cross, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010.

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004
E-Tender Notice
Attention for Insurance of Rly. Materials to be Transported by Road E-tender are invited for on behalf of President of India into a contract for Insurance of Rly. Materials around value Rs.1000.00 Crore against its transportation within any part of India beyond DLW/Varanasi. 1. Tender No: Sale_2020_Insurance 2. Tender Opening date: 18.08.2020 3. Estimated cost of Insurance premium will be Rs.5,90,000.00 (GST inclusive) 4. Duration of contract: One year. Note: Only E-offers will be accepted for which vendors must have class III digital signature and Registration on IREPS website.
P.R.O/DLW/S-31 Dt.: 28.07.2020 **Form Principal Chief Material Manager**
/diesellocoworks "Website :- www.dlw.indianrailways.gov.in"

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Information & Public Relations Dept.
ENGAGING OUTDOOR MEDIA AGENCIES FOR FABRICATION & ERECTION OF HOARDINGS/ BILL BOARDS FOR GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
No.3110/Advt.II/2020, **Dt. 28-07-2020**
Government of Andhra Pradesh proposes to engage the services of eligible agency(s) for fabrication and permanent erection of 5x10 ft / 6x12 ft / 7x14 feet size two way/single side hoardings with front lit on at Village and Ward Secretariats according to the space availability, maintenance of property and Self Adhesive Vinyl Sticker (SAVS). Cost of Tender Schedule (RFP) : Rs.10,000/- (Non-refundable) and EMD Rs.5,00,000/-. The Cost of Tender Schedule and EMD should be in the shape of DD from Nationalized Bank in favour of "Accounts Officer, I&PR Department, Vijayawada". Interested bidders can obtain tender schedule (RFP) on written requisition from the O/o. Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Dept., 2nd Floor, Dr. NTR Administrative Block, Pandit Nehru Bus Station, Vijayawada from **30-07-2020 to 12-08-2020** upto 1 PM. Sealed tenders should reach this office on or before **5.00 PM on 12-08-2020.** For further details can be viewed in the website **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** or contact Sri P. Kiran Kumar, Joint Director (Advertisements) 9121215223.
Sd/- T. VIJAY KUMAR REDDY, Commissioner
DIPR No.631/CL/ADVT/1/1/2020-21, Dt.28/07/2020

Government of Karnataka
Zilla Panchayath, Raichur
No:ZP/MDM/ Fire extinguisher /2020-21 Date: 22.07.2020
-: TENDER NOTIFICATION :–
(Through e-procurement)
Tenders are invited through e-procurement for the Supply of 1713 Nos Fire extinguisher of by the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Raichur on behalf of the Government of Karnataka, from the Manufactures/ Authorized dealers as per the schedule given below.

01	Issue of Blank Tender Documents From	20.07.2020
02	Receipt of completed tender documents	06.08.2020 up to 4.30 PM
03	Technical Bid opening on	07.08.2020 at 11.00 AM
04	Financial Bid opening on	07.08.2020 at 5.00 PM

Further details can be obtained by logging on to the http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.
Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Zilla Panchayath, Raichur

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
KNNL,Dandavathi Reservoir Project Division, Shikaripura .Ph:08187-222206
Short Term Tender Notification
Tender Notification 25/2020-21 Date: 24.07.2020
(Two Document System & E- Procurement System only)
Short term percentage tender are invited as per K.T.P.P Act-2000 on behalf of the Managing Director KNNL Bangalore from eligible contractors such as **KNNL Cat-III & above,** The tenders are required to submit Tenders only through E- procurement portal of Govt of Karnataka **(http:// www.eproc .karnataka.gov.in).**
"Construction **of Samudhaya Bhavan in Soraba taluk of 01 Package work for** Amount put to tender **Rs. 204.62** lakhs and EMD **Rs. 2.05** lakhs
1) Date of pre bid meeting: **31.07.2020 @11.00AM**.0/o EE, KNNL, DRP Division Shikaripura. **2)** Date of downloading & submission of tender (through e- procurement) will be on **27.07.2020 to 04.08.2020** up to **17.00** hrs. **3)** opening of technical bid will be on **06.08.2020 @ 11.00** hrs. **4)** Financial bid will be opened after approval of technical bid. For more details visit website from date-**27-07-2020** at **(http:// www.eproc .karnataka .gov.in)**. OR undersigned in all working days during office hours on telephone no **08187-222206**
Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, DRP Division, Shikaripura
DIPR/SMG/No.107-07/zenkar/2020-21

Indian Bank | Information Technology Department, Corporate Office, Chennai
Indian Bank, a leading Public Sector Bank, is interested in:
1. Entering into Rate contract for Procurement, Installation, Implementation and Maintenance of Scanners with Ranger Software for Cheque Truncation System (CTS) and Support for Integration with Bank's Own CTS Software.
2. Entering into Rate Contract for Procurement, Installation & Maintenance of ADF Scanners.
Interested parties may refer Bank's Website: https://www.indianbank.in/tenders for details.

ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಆಫ್ ಬರೋಡ
बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda
Bengaluru Zonal Office: 2nd Floor, South Wing, 41/2, M G Road Trinity Circle ,Bengaluru – 560001
TENDER NOTICE
Bank of Baroda invites Bids: "Request for Proposal for Supply, Installation and Commissioning of UPS Systems in Branches of Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural, Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Ramanagara, Tumkur, Mandya, Mysore, Chamarajnagar districts". Details are available under Tenders section on Bank's website: **www.bankofbaroda.com**
Last date for receipt of the Application: 14.08.2020 by 3.00 PM

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform General Public that my client, is intending to purchase the industrial shed bearing No:43/3 (earlier privately numbered as D-23 in second floor of D-Block), with a super built up area of 1991sq.ft.. together with corresponding 318.65/2793 i.e. 1068.38sq.ft. of undivided share and interest in the land of the property bearing No:53/1 (earlier site Nos:36 to 45, carved out of land in Sy.No:53/1, situated at Yediyur Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk), now situated at Brigade MM Industrial Estate, Yediyur, Bangalore, Ward No:167-Yediyur (old ward No:59), PID No:59-82-43/3, together with two top covered car parking and bounded on the East by : Lift, Lobby and Staircase area; West by : Unit privately numbered as D-24; North by : Open Space (Set Back area) towards Anjaneya Temple Street; South by : Open Space (Set Back area);, belonging to i) Sri.C Bhaskar Reddy, Son of Late Ramachandra Reddy, ii) Smt.Lakshmi Kantha, Wife of Sri.C Bhaskara Reddy, both residing at No:679, Twelfth Cross, Seventh Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560 082 and iii) Smt.Sandhya R, Wife of Sri.R Raghu Reddy, residing at No:464, Seventh Cross, Seventh Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore – 560 082;
Any, person, having any claim over the above property claiming through the predecessors in title or any other person, may lodge their objections or claims, in writing with all supporting documentary evidence by registered post with regard to such claim with the undersigned within ten (10) days hereof, failing which my client will proceed to conclude the Sale Transaction. Any claims lodged thereafter will not be entertained by my client;
N S SATYANARAYANA GUPTA, K S NAYAK, N S RACHANA N C JANARDHAN, Advocates
Rachana Law Associates, "Lakshmideep", I Floor, No:2980, 17th Cross, Banashankari II Stage, BANGALORE – 560 070; PH : 26761209 / 26765286
Date: 27-07-2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public notified that I, Sri. C. **Suresh Kumar S/o T. Chandrashekaran,** #354, 2nd Main Road, Vyalikaval Housing Society Layout, Vijayanagar, B'lore-40.Had lost/ misplaced the following original documents.
No.1 Allotment Letter issued from ITI Employees Housing Co-operative Society Ltd., Dooravaninagar, Bangalore-560016, in favour of **Sri. P. EBINESAR CHELLAIAH** Site #239 Mallathahalli Village, Bangalore-56 **No.2** Sale deed dated 17-12-1995 bearing document **No.8100/1995-96** Sub-registered at Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore executed in favour of Sri. **P. EBINESAR CHELLAIAH** **No.3** NOC issued from the ITI Employees Housing Co-operative Society Ltd., Dooravaninagar, Bangalore-16 related to property bearing **Site No.239** Mallathahalli Village, Bangalore-560056 **No.4 Sale** deed dated 07-02-1997 bearing document **No. 5831/1996-97** Sub-registered at Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, executed in favour of **Sri. C. Suresh Kumar. No.5** Bank loan discharge deed dated: 02-11-2013 bearing document **No.7017/2012-13** Sub-registered at Nagarabhavi, Bangalore. I have lodged Police Complaint to that effect at Chandra Layout Police Station Bangalore. Finder may kindly handover the same either to the said Police Stationor to the undersigned. Further, i have applied and obtained to certified copy of the same, henceforth for all practical purpose the certified copy shall be treated as secondary evidence/ documents. General public is warned not to enter any kind of transactions in respect of the schedule property on basis of the said document, if anybody does, they will be doing so at their own costs and risks.
Sri. C. Suresh Kumar. 9448046531

OPPORTUNITIES

General

SBI
State Bank of India
Central Recruitment & Promotion Department, Corporate Centre, Mumbai.
RECRUITMENT OF CIRCLE BASED OFFICERS
Advertisement No.: CRPD/CBO/2020-21/20
Applications are invited from Indian citizen for appointment to the post of "Circle Based Officer" on Regular Basis.
Details of Vacancies, eligibility criteria (age, educational qualification, experience etc.), requisite fees and other details are available on detailed advertisement. Candidates are advised to go through the detailed advertisement ensuring their eligibility and other details before applying online.
The Detailed Advertisement (CRPD/CBO/2020-21/20) And Link To Apply Online Shall Be Available On Bank's Website From 27.07.2020.
For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's website **https://bank.sbi/careers** OR **https://www.sbi.co.in/careers**
Place: Mumbai
Date: 26.07.2020
General Manager (CRPD)

BELAGAVI SMART CITY LIMITED
1st Floor, BUDA Office, Ashok Nagar, Belagavi -590006.
Phone: 0831-2461352, E-mail: bscltd16@gmail.com, website: www.bscl.in
TENDER NOTIFICATION
Tender No: BSCL/Tend-Notification/2020-21/510 Date: 27/07/2020
On behalf of the Managing Director Belagavi Smart City Limited Belagavi, bids are invited from eligible bidders through E-Procurement under KTPP Act 1999 for the below mentioned projects. Further details may be downloaded from the e-procurement website of Government of Karnataka (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.)
Name of the Works: 1) Selection of Developer to Design, Finance, Manufacture, Supply, Install, Test, Commission, Operate and Maintain Roof Top Solar PV systems for 25years on Discount over Retail Tariff basis for selected Government Buildings in Belagavi. EMD Amount; Rs.2.35/- Lakhs - Call-2.
1) The date from which document can be downloaded is 28-07-2020 to 29-08-2020 2) Last Date for Submission of Bid 29-08-2020 Up to 5.00 PM, 3) Last Date to receive Technical Queries 07-08-2020 Up to 4.00 PM, 4) Pre Bid Meeting is on 11-08-2020 @11:30AM at BSCL office, 5) Technical Bid Opening is on 31-08-2020 At 11.00 AM, 6) Financial Bid Opening is on 11-09-2020 at 11.00 AM.
Sd/-Deputy General Manager (Procurement)
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-346/MCA/2020-21 **Belagavi Smart City Limited**

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer (Ele), South Zone, Jayanagar 2nd Block, BBMP, Bangalore.
BBMP EE/ELE/S/TEND/09/2020-21 Date : 27.07.2020
INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Through E-Procurement Portal only)
The Executive Engineer (Elect), South Zone, invites tenders in accordance with KTPP rules 2000, from eligible contractors registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike / KPWD on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP, as detailed in the table. The bidders may submit their bids for works given in the table below through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz.https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). The bidders are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause-3 of the ITT (KW-1 and KW-2) to qualify for award of the contract.

SL No.	Name of the Work	Aaproximate value of work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (In Rs.)	Category
1	Arranging temporary illumination to Ganesha immersion function in ward No. 151.	1.00	1250.00	ST
2	Arranging Temporary illumination to Ganesha immersion function in ward No. 145.	1.00	1250.00	ST
3	Arranging Temporary illumination to Ganesha immersion function in ward No. 162.	2.00	2500.00	SC
4	Arranging Temporary illumination to Ganesha immersion function in Yeddiyur ward No.167.	5.00	12500.00	Others
5	Annaul Maintenance of all Telephones, Broad Band Systems and other Periphals in Jayanagara 2nd Block BBMP Complex in ward No. 153. (4th Call)	1.00	2500.00	Others

(1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **29.07.2020. (2)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **16.00 hours on 04.08.2020. (3)** Financial Bid Shall be opened on **06.08.2020 at 16.00 hours.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours on working days or from website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Ele) South Zone, BBMP
PAY DEVELOPMENT CHARGES-HELP TO DEVELOP BENGALURU

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE
Every Friday with
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the Information of General Public that my Client Smt. Pushpa V, W/o Late Venkatesh, residing at No. 42, 4th Main Road, Hosa Thippasandra, Hanumanagar, Bengaluru - 560 075 has lost the registered original lease cum sale agreement purchased by Smt. Veniammal, at the time of shifting residence on 01-07-2020, registered as Document No. 792/1994-95, Vol. No. 35766, pages 106 to 109, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, registered on 09-06-1994.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing site No. 42, measuring East to West 5.18 meter, and North to South 8.53 meters, in all total 44.18 square meter, situated at Hanuma Nagar, HAL 3rd Stage, Bengaluru - 560075, and bounded on:

East by : Site No. 43, West by : Site No. 41, North by : Road, South by : Site No. 54.

Sri. T.S. SHIVANNA, Advocate,
No. 326/3/1, Vandana Complex,
New Bazaar Street, K.R. Puram,
Bengaluru - 560 036.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our client has negotiated to purchase the Schedule Property from Mr. B. M. Manjunatha, aged about 47 years, S/o. Mr. Munikrishnappa, residing at No. 472, 11th Main, BEML Layout Park, Thubarahalli, Whitefield, Bangalore 560 066, for valuable consideration. Any persons(s) claiming any right, title or interest of whatsoever nature over the schedule property is called upon to lodge such claim with the undersigned, with supporting documents within 7 days from the date of this publication. In the event no such claims(s) is received within the stipulated time, it shall be lawful for our client to presume that there are no valid claim(s) adverse to Mr. B. M. Manjunatha's right, title and interest in the Schedule Property and proceed with the proposed sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No. 526/A, formed by Aircraft Employees Co-operative Society Limited in Sy. Nos. 115/1, 116 to 121, 122/1 and 2, 124/1, 3, 125 and 131/1, 3 of Kundalahalli and Sy. Nos. 39 to 43 of Chinnappanahalli, Krishnarajapuram Hobli and Sy. Nos. 8 and 73 of Thubarahalli, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring East to West: 60 feet, North to South: (14 feet + 23 feet)/2, totally measuring about 1110 Sq. Ft., and bounded on the: East by: Site No. 527, West by: Road, North by: Private Property, and South by: Site No. 526.

Aravindan. K,
AVR Associates,
Advocates & Legal Consultants
34, 2nd Floor, 11th Cross, 2nd Main Road,
Indiranagar 1st Stage, Bangalore-560038.

HDFC

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LTD. CIN L70100MH1977PLC019916
Regd. Office: Ramon House, H T Parekh Marg, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Churchgate, Mumbai- 400020
Regional Office : HDFC House, No.51, Kasturaba Road, Bangalore - 560001. **Ph :** 080 41183000
Fax: 080 22275754, **E-mail :** customercare.bang@hdfc.com, **Website:** www.hdfc.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC Limited)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the Demand Notice, within 60 days from the date of the said Notice, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused/are getting the said Notice to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notice are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC Limited, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amount indicated hereinbelow in their name(s), together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as detailed in the said Demand Notice from the date mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset has been mortgaged to HDFC Limited by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Attention of the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	(Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
1	**Borrower: (1) Mr. D Swamy,** No.106, Desai Garden, Vasanthapura Main Road, Konankunte Cross, Doddakallasandra, Near Mahalakshmi Temple, Bengaluru560062 **(2) Mr. D Swamy,** New Horizon Manpower Services **Designation:** Proprietor 18/2, 1st Floor, Kanakapura Road, Konankunte, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru 560062 **(3) Mr. D Swamy,** Unit-702-B3, Plot-702-B3, KHB-Ramanagara-Bidadi, NetajiSubash Chandra Layout, Ramanagara 562159 **Co-Borrower-1: (1) Mrs. H M Shobha,** No.106, Desai Garden, Vasanthapura Main Road, Konankunte Cross, Doddakallasandra, Near Mahalakshmi Temple, Bengaluru560062 **(2) Mrs. H M Shobha,** Unit-702 B3, Plot-702-B3, KHB-Ramanagara- Bidadi, NetajiSubash Chandra Layout, Ramanagara 562159, **Co-Borrower-2: (1) M/s. New Horizon Manpower Services,** 18/2, 1st Floor, Kanakapura Road, Kananakunte, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru 560062 **(2) M/S. New Horizon Manpower Services,** Unit-702-B3, Plot-702-B3, KHB-Ramanagara-Bidadi, Netaji Subash Chandra Layout, Ramanagara 562159	**Loan A/c No: (1) 633375714 Rs.7,85,391/- & (2) 634224979 Rs. 70,930/-** **Total : Rs. 8,56,321/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Three Hundred Twenty One Only) (as on 31.05.2020)**	**14.07.2020** **N.P.A. Date:** **31.08.2019**	All the piece and parcel of residential Site bearing No.702-B3, MIG category, developed by Karnataka Housing Board, situated at Bidadi Netaji Subash Chandrabose Layout, Ramanagara, measuring East to West:15.00 Meters and North to south: 9.00 Meters in all measuring 135.00 Sq Mtrs.

*with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to HDFC Limited as aforesaid, then HDFC Limited shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC Limited. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 29.07.2020
Place: Bangalore

For Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd
Sd/- Authorised Officer,

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shabeena Aslam, W/o. Nayaz Pasha, aged about 19 years, R/at No.837,13th Cross, Modi Hospital, Indiranagar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. **Shabeena Aslam, Sabina, Sabina Begum.A** belongs to me only. I have changed my name to **ASMA.** Vide affidavit dated 25.07.2020. Sworn before Advocate & Notary **B.R.Shashikala,** Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This **PUBLIC NOTICE** is to inform the general public that, my client is interested purchasing **2 acres 10 Guntas (including 02 Guntas of Karab) of dry agricultural lands in Sy.No. 75/3, situated at: Honna Halli Village, Sathanur Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagaram District,** having **annual assessment of Rs. 2 Ps.51**, from its present owners **Smt. Manjulamma,** D/o late L.Ramanna and W/o late. K.U.Muniyappa, **Smt. M.Tanushri,** and **Sri.Tanush M Gowda.,** both children of late K.U.Muniyappa and all residing at: Chandana Nilya, M.H.S. Road, Kanakapura Town, Ramanagaram District, Karnataka - 562117.

Any person/s having any claim/s, right, title, interest or objection/s for the sale of the Schedule Property, may register their claim/s, right, title, interest or objections/s, with documentary proof supporting such claim/s, right, title, interest or objection/s **within 7 days** of the publication of this **PUBLIC NOTICE** to the address given below. My client shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property if no claim/s, right, title, interest or objection/s is received within 7 day. My client is **not responsible** for any claim/s, right, title, interest or objection/s received after registration of the Absolute Sale Deed.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of dry agricultural lands in **Sy.No. 75/3, situated at: Honna Halli Village, Sathanur Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagaram District, measuring 2 acres 10 Guntas (including 02 Guntas of Karab)** having annual assessment of Rs.2 Ps.51 and bounded on:

East by : Property belonging to Siddaiah,
West by : Property belonging to Boranna,
North by : Property belonging to Boranna,
South by : Road to AttiHalli

B.R. DwarakaNath, Advocate
No. 407/8, 4th Cross, 7th Block
Jayanagar (W), Bengaluru-560 070.
Mob: 97412 53443
Bengaluru, Date: 28-07-2020

HDFC BANK

एच डी एफ सी बैंक
हम समझें आपकी दुनिया

HDFC BANK LTD, 3rd Floor, 'B' wing Golden Tower, Old Airport Rd., Kodihalli, Bangalore- 560017. Ph: 42080094

ANNEXURE—VI **(FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)**

Possession Notice

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the HDFC Bank Ltd., under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice dated **24-Apr-2019** calling upon the borrowers **1) M/s Jaya Vijaya Industries, 2) Mrs. Ittiyamkandath Sundari and 3) Mr. Vijayan I** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 1,33,30,404.64** (Rupees One Crore Thirty Three Lakhs Thirty Thousand Four Hundred Four and Sixty Four Paise Only) along with interest, penal interest, costs etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The borrowers, having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers, in particular and the public, in general, that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub-section 4 of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **27- July-2020**

The borrower, in particular, and the public, in general, are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the HDFC Bank Ltd, for an amount of **Rs. 1,33,30,404.64** (Rupees One Crore Thirty Three Lakhs Thirty Thousand Four Hundred Four and Sixty Four Paise Only) along with interest thereon and penal interest, charges, costs etc. from 24-Apr-2019 (date of notice).

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Industrial Shed bearing No C-205, Formed by The Karnataka State Small Industries Development Corporation ltd, situated at 4th Cross, Peenya 1st Stage, Industrial Estate, Bangalore, BBMP Ward No 11, Measuring East to West :54-0 feet and North to South : 91-6 feet, in all total 4941 Sq Feet or 459.20 Sq meters and bounded on:East by: Shed No C - 204, West by: Shed No C-206,North by: 4th Cross Road, South by: Conservancy Lane Along with A C Shet shed built up area of 160.26 Square meters and having compound with the facility of Electricity and water.

Date: 27.07.2020
Place: Bangalore

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
For HDFC BANK Ltd.,

Regd.Office : HDFC Bank Limited, HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013.

LAKSHMI VILAS BANK

STRESSED ASSETS & RECOVERY
Regional Office: #93, II Floor, TKN Mansion, Opp: KSRTC Central Office
K. H. Road, Bengaluru – 560027. Phone: 080-46766318,
Email: bangalorerorecovery@lvbank.in

APPENDIX- IV-A

[See proviso to rule 8 (6)]

E-Auction Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Lakshmi Vilas Bank, the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 04-09-2020, for recovery of ₹ 61,79,773.25 (Rupees sixty one lac seventy nine thousand seven hundred seventy three and paise twenty five paise only) as on 27-07-2020 and interest from 19-07-2020 to Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Thippasandra Branch, the Secured Creditor from Borrowers: Sri Deepak Samidurai, S/o Sri Samidurai, A 202, RK Skyline Atlantis, Tin Factory, Old Madras Road, K. R. Puram, Bengaluru – 560000, Also at: No. 16, 3rd Floor, PSS Plaza, New Thippasandra Main Road, HAL 3rd Stage, Bangalore – 560075 and guarantor Sri M. B. Devanand, S/o Sri Reddyramadasappa Muddubangaru, No. 4, Manjula Nilaya, 17th A Cross, Kaggadasapura, C. V. Raman Nagar, Bengaluru – 560093.

Date of E-Auction	**04-09-2020 at 12:00 PM**
Last Date, Time and Place for receipt of EMD	**03-09-2020,** before 3:00 PM, Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Thippasandra Branch, #11/1, New Thippasandra Main Road, HAL III Stage, Thippasandra, Bengaluru-560075.
Reserve Price	₹ **1,47,00,000.00** (Rupees one crore forty seven lac only)
EMD	₹ **14,70,000.00** (Rupees fourteen lac seventy thousand only) (DD/PO/BC/NEFT/ RTGS favouring "Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Thippasandra Branch - A/c Deepak Samidurai")
Description of Immovable Property: All that part and parcel of residential property bearing Flat No. 17 (Now 304) situated on the 3rd Floor of Apartment building known as Royal Manor Apartment, constructed on land bearing No. 18/2, now BBMP Ward No. 74, earlier Corporation No. 39/15, present BBMP Khatha No. 74-49-39 / 15, situated at 6th Cross, Kodihalli Main Road, HAL III Stage, Jeevan Bima Nagar, Bengaluru, flat measuring 2,409 square feet, super built up area together with one car parking space in basement together with 4.5768% (997 square feet) UDS on land the flat, standing in the name of Sri Deepak Samidurai, S/o Sri Samidurai, Bound on: the East by Facing Road, On the West by Common passage and Flat No. 16, the North by Facing Road, the South by Flat No. 18.	
For terms and conditions, please visit Bank's website www.lvbank.com and the E Auction Service Provider's website https://bankauctions.in	

Place : Bengaluru
Date : 29.07.2020

Authorised Officer
Lakshmi Vilas Bank, Regional Office, Bengaluru

STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH
3rd Floor No.11/90, J.C. ROAD, (Near old Shivaji Talkies)
BANGALORE-560 002, Telephone: 080-25943663/25943664/25943678

Ref No: SARB/BNG/SARFAESI /5691/77 **dt 27.07.2020**

Sale Notice(By Private Treaty)
{ Rule 8(6) with Rule 9(1) of Security Interest(Enforcement) Rules 2002}
[Rule 6 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002]

To:

1. **Sri.Krishnamurthy R.,Director:M/s.Southern Electricals & Insulators Pvt.Ltd.,** Plot no.19, KIADB, Industrial Area, Antharasanahalli,Tumkur-572106
2. **Sri.Krishnamurthy R,** # 12,7th Cross, A-Sector, Amruthanagara, Bengaluru-560092.
3. **Smt. Swaroopa Rani R.** W/o. Sri Krishnamurthy R. Amruthanagara, Bengaluru-560092.
4. **Sri Rama Sunil S/o.** Rama Sambhamurthy, 15-10-22, Ramannapet, Padishala, Veerabhadraiah Street, Ramannapet, Warangal, AP- 506002.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Notice of Sale under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

On your failure to repay the dues mentioned vide notice issued under section 13(2), the authorised officer had attempted to sell the immovable secured asset described in the schedule on 05.07.2019,16.08.2019, 06.09.2019, 13.12.2019, 03.02.2020 & 20.02.2020 respectively, by following the process laid down under the captioned Act and Rules made thereunder.

The e-auction conducted as detailed above in respect of the scheduled property was not successful for want of bidders/bids above reserve price. Thereafter a person has shown interest in purchasing the schedule property for a price at the reserve price,of Rs.5,41,00,000/- and Plant & Machinery Rs.20,00,000/- (Total Rs.5,61,00,000/- Rs. Five Crores Sixty One Lakhs Only) on terms and conditions agreeable to the Bank. As the schedule property could not be sold through e-auction held earlier, the Bank has decided to sell the property to the proposed purchaser by executing necessary documents,on or after 20th August, 2020 by way of private treaty.

If you fail to pay the dues outstanding in your loan account within 15 days from the date of this notice, the scheduled property shall be sold to the proposed purchaser as per terms and conditions agreed between the Bank and the proposed purchaser without any further notice to you. If the sale proceeds of the scheduled property is insufficient to realise the outstanding dues under the loan account, the legal action initiated against you and others shall continue/follow until full recovery of outstanding dues.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY (DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE SECURED ASSETS)

All that piece and parcel of industrial converted land,with industrial shed buildings & plant and machinery thereon, bearing Plot no.19,in part of Sy. No.6 & 17, ad-measuring 8947 s.metrs (96,422 s.ft) ,situated at Antharasanahalli Industrial Area,Tumkur & the same is bounded on: East by :Plot No.18, West By :Plot No.20-A, B &C, North by : KIADB 40 ft.Road, South by :Plot No.61-A,B,C.

Sd/-
Place: Bengaluru
Authorized Officer & Chief Manager

Bank of Baroda

बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda

Koramangala BRANCH
(Erstwhile Vijaya Bank)
#44, SAIKRUPA, 17th Main,6th Block,
Koramangala (13940) BENGALURU – 560 095
Email: VJKORA@bankofbaroda.co.in Phone: 080 25506865/25506866

NOTICE TO BORROWER

(UNDER SUB-SECTOIN (2) OF SECTION 13 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002)

'At your request, Bank has extended credit facilities to the below mentioned individuals against secured assets through its **Bank of Baroda, Koramangala Branch,** the relevant particulars of the property on which you have created security interest by execution of security agreement/documents & creation of mortgage by way deposit of title deeds are furnished hereunder. As the operation and conduct of the financial assistance/ credit facilities have become irregular, the debts have been classified as Non Performing Assets in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India consequent to the default committed by the borrowers in repayment of the principal debt and interest thereon. As the demand notice sent by register AD calling upon you, was un-served/not acknowledged, this publication is now issued.

1.Name and Address of the Borrower/Co-Borrower/Mortgagor/Guarantor:
1) Mr. Anand Kumar M, S/o Mr. Narayana Swamy M L, Flat No. 208, 2nd Floor, "Sattava Shubham" Apartment, Kothanoor Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore
(2) Mrs. Rupa Anand W/o- Mr. Anand Kumar M, Flat No. 208, 2nd Floor, "Sattava Shubham" Apartment, Kothanoor Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore
Account No.: Housing Loan A/c No.139408351000358
Loan Limit Amount : Rs.40,00,000
Total Amount Outstanding :Rs.41,46,765.61(Rupees Forty One Lakh Forty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Five and Sixty One Paise only) inclusive of interest upto **30.06.2020** as stated in para 1 above with further Rates of Interest 8.50% Floating.
NPA Date : 30.06.2020 **Demand Notice Date : 09.07.2020**
Schedule of the land property: EMDTD of residential Flat No. 208, 2nd Floor, 2 BHK East Facing measuring Super built up area 1234 sq.ft with one car parking space and including proportionate share in common areas such as lobbies , passages, lifts, staircase, terrace and all other amenities provided thereon and contained with apartment known as "Sattava Subham" along with 400sq ft undivided share right, title and interest in immoveable property having present BBMP Khatha No/59/2147/167/3/4/5/6/6/7/8 formed by out of Sy No 167/3 situated at Kothanoor Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore in the limit of BBMP.

If you fail to repay the aforesaid sum with interest and incidental expenses within 60 days from the date of this notice, Bank shall exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub section (4) of the section 13 of the SARFAESI Act. You are also put on notice that in terms of sub section 13 of section 13, you shall not transfer by sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed above without obtaining written consent of the Bank. This notice is without prejudice to the Banks rights to initiate such other action or legal proceedings as it deem necessary under any other applicable provisions of law.

Date : 27.07.2020
Place : Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Bank of Baroda

CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DEEPA RAGHAVENDRA KULKARNI**, R/o G-2 SVR Pine Ridge Apartment, 19th Cross, Opp. SBI Gyan Jyothi Campus, Jakkur layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore- 560092 have changed my name from **DEEPA RAGHAVENDRA KULKARNI** to **DEEPA ANOOP** vide affidavit dated 28-07-2020 sworn before Notary D. Sarala Kumari, B'lore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **NITHISHA M.** daughter of Mukesh M., aged about 17 years, permanently residing at No. 3/1, 5th Cross, Jai Bharath Nagar, Maruthi Sevanagar, Bangalore - 560 033, Karnataka State, hereby declare that my parent's changed my name from **NITHISHA FRANKLIN** to **NITHISHA M.** Vide affidavit dated 28-07-2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Gowthami, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SANJAY GAURI, resident of SMQ No. 47/2, M P Camp, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore-560017, have changed my name from **SANJAY GAURI** to **SANJAY** vide affidavit Dated 24/07/2020 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, S.SATHYADEEPA, Wife of No. 15319928K THM, R.Sivakumar, residing at N.Kalavasal (Vill) Thombakulam (Post) Virudhunagar (Dist) Tamil Nadu-626136, have changed my name from **S.SATHYADEEPA** to **SATHYADEEPA.R** vide affidavit dated 24/07/2020 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shivchandra Badri Mandal, S/o Badri Mandal, aged 44 years, R/at J-303, Purva Fountain Square, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037, Karnataka, India have changed my name from **SHIVCHANDRA BADRI MANDAL to SHIVCHANDRA BADRI SINGH** Vide affidavit dated 27.07.2020. Sworn before Advocate & Notary **INDIRA S.S,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RITA PREYA D, RITA PRIYA,** residing at No. 11/31, KRB Nilaya, 7th Cross, 6th Main, J.P. Nagar 1st Phase, Shakambarinagar, Bangalore 560 078, Karnataka, **India,** have changed my name to **PRIYA SANTOSH,** for all purposes vide affidavit dated 28/07/2020 before Notary D.K. Rameshappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **KAVITA B.M.**, W/o. Basavaraja S.M., aged about 41 years, resident of No. 23, 4th Cross, 2nd Main, Near Ganesha Clinic, Hosahalli, Vijayanagar, Bangalore - 560040, have changed my name from **KAVITA DODDAMATTIHALLI** to **KAVITA B.M.** Vide affidavit dated 28-07-2020 sworn before Advocate & Notary K.C. Shashikala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANCHAL VISHNOI, residing at #246, Ground Floor, 7th Cross, 3rd Main, S T Bed, Koramangala 4th Block, Bangalore-560034, shall henceforth be known as **ANCHAL PRASAD** vide affidavit dated: 27.07.2020, before notary B M Chandrashekar, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SERVICE NO. 15326995X L/NK Tarakeswara Rao.K, H Coy Depot BN MEG & Centre, Bangalore-560042, have changed my Father name from **NARAYANA RAO** to **KOMMANAPALLI NARAYANA RAO** and Mother name from **SAVITHRI** to **KOMMANAPALLI SAVITRI** vide affidavit Dated 23/07/2020 sworn before Notary Gangaraju.B.N., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Rupa Mandal, W/o Shivchandra Badri Mandal, aged 39 years, R/at J-303, Purva Fountain Square, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037, Karnataka, India have changed my name from **RUPA MANDAL to RUPA SINGH** Vide affidavit dated 27.07.2020. Swom before Advocate & Notary **INDIRA S.S,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Dr. MAMTA SANJEEVA VERNEKAR,** W/o Sanjeeva Gajanana Vernekar and D/o Balakrishna Manjunath Neelavar, presently residing at No. 149, AECS Layout, 1st Stage, Sanjaynagar Main Road, RMV 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560094, Karnataka, India, state that my names, **NEELAVAR MAMTA BALAKRISHNA, MAMATA NEELAWAR, MAMTA NEELAVAR, MAMTA S. VERNEKAR** and **MAMTA SANJEEVA VERNEKAR,** are the variations of **MAMTA SANJEEVA VERNEKAR** (Final Name) sworn vide affidavit 2055 dated 25-02-2020 before Notary Peruvazhuthi, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, REVATHI PRAKASH, Wife of No. 15332064K HAV I.Bhanu Prakash, residing at Somala (Vill & Post) Chittoor (Dist) Andhra Pradesh-517257, have changed my name from **REVATHI PRAKASH** to **SIDDA REVATHI** vide affidavit Dated 27/07/2020 sworn before Notary Meer Hassan, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) VISHWANATHRADDI ADAGIMANI, Residing at No. 240, Sharan Sadan, B L D E Road, Gachchinakatti Colony, Bijapur Vijaya College, Bijapur Karnataka-586103, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) VISHWANATH REDDY** vide affidavit Dated 27/06/2020 sworn before Notary G.Mallikarjunappa, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, (OLD NAME) MOUZZAM HUSSAIN MOHAMMED, S/o. Mohammed Asghar Hussain, residing at No. 04, 3rd Cross, Dr. Abdul Kalam Road, Umar Nagar, Govindapura, Bangalore-560045, have changed my name to **(NEW NAME) MOHAMMED MOUZZAM HUSSAIN** vide affidavit Dated 27/07/2020 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

We, Shivchandra Badri Mandal, S/o Badri Mandal, aged 44 years & Rupa Mandal, W/o Shivchandra Badri Mandal aged 39 years, R/at J-303, Purva Fountain Square, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037, Karnataka, India have changed our minor son's name from **AARUSH MANDAL to AARUSH SINGH** Vide affidavit dated 27.07.2020. Swom before Advocate & Notary **INDIRA S.S,** Bengaluru.

Education. Goals.
And game changing decisions.
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Every Monday with
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

THE HOTEL INDUSTRIALISTS CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

Regd. Office: "Sahakara Sourabha", No.234, 2nd Cross, 4th Main,
Chamarajapet, Bengaluru - 560 018. Phone: 080-26678329, 26612482, 41277283,
E-mail: ho@hicbank.com, Website: www.hicbank.com

Tender – cum – Auction Sale Notice

AUCTION SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY UNDER SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

Whereas, the Bank has issued notice under Section 13 (2) of the SARFAESI Act, 2002 and in pursuant to and in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13 (4) of the Act, the Authorised Officer, **The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd, Chamrajpet Bangalore** has taken possession of the mortgaged properties including those more fully described hereunder, and the Bank has decided to sell the below mentioned property under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act read with the relevant rules of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower	Description of Property and Boundaries & Measurement	Reserve Price and EMD	Balance Outstanding Amount to be paid to Bank	Date & Time of opening tender & place of auction
	DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY				
1.	**1) Mr. Venkatesh K N** S/o Late K N N Iyengar Office No.75, 2nd Floor, Dr. Rajkumar Road, 2nd Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore. Also at: 82/1, 1st Floor, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Bangalroe-560021 **2) Mrs. Kureti Vijaya Durga** W/o K Srinivasa Rao No.768, Begur Hongasandra, MICO Layout, Garvebhavi Palya, Bangalore-560058.	All that part and parcel of the Industrial Land Property bearing Plot No.181-B, Bommasandra Grama Panchayath Katha N.169/181-B, Bommasandra Industrial Area, formed in Survey No.270, situated at Bommasandra Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, Bangalore-560099 and in measuring East to West (75.40+77.40)/2 meters and North to South (11.00+20.20) meters, in all measuring 1177.40 square meters. Bounded By: East: Plot No.178, West: Road, North: Plots Nos. 180 and 181, South:Private Land, Built Area: About GF=2099 sq. ft. with RCC Roofing	**Rs.5,50,00,000/-** (Rupees Five Crore Fifty Lakhs Only) **EMD: Rs. 55,00,000/-** (Rupees Fifty Five Lakhs Only)	**Rs.4,88,28,521/-** (Rupees Four Crores Eighty Eight Lakhs Twenty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twenty One Only) as on 31/05/2020	**14/08/2020 at 11.30 AM** **EMD Date 13/08/2020 before 5.00 P M.**

Terms and Conditions of Auction Sale: - (1) The Tender form can be collected from **The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd., "Sahakara Sourabha" No.234, 2nd Cross, 4th Main, Chamarajapet, Bengaluru-560018. (Ph. 080-41277283)** on all working days during office hours. **(2)** The intending bidders should submit their bids in the prescribed tender form in closed cover along with EMD of 10% of the Reserve Price by means of Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order drawn in favour of **The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd., Bangalore**- payable at Bangalore. The Demand Draft / Banker's Cheque / Pay Order shall be drawn after the date of publication of this Tender – cum – Auction Sale Notice. **(3)** Tenders not in the prescribed format will not be accepted. The tender along with the EMD shall be submitted at **The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd., Bangalore**.Tender without EMD shall be summarily rejected. **(4)** The property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price. **(5)** In case the bidder is not successful the E M D amount shall be refunded without interest. **(6)** The EMD amount shall be liable for forfeiture without prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Auction Sale. **(7)** The sealed tenders will be opened by the Authorised Officer in the presence of the available / attending bidders. **(8)** After opening the tenders, the intending bidders may be given opportunity at the discretion of the Authorised Officer to have, intense bidding amongst themselves to enhance the offer Price. **(9)** The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the Sale Price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale Price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction. **(10)** The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues / taxes / charges / property tax / E B charges / water charges / conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws. **(11)** The Authorised Officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all of the tender or/ bid / offer and / or adjourn / postpone / cancel the Auction Sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice. **(12)** The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank. **(13)** The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 AM and -5.00PM at his expenses at the address mentioned in the Schedule. **(14)** The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" and "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION".** The intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title, ownership, statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

For further details the intending bidders may contact the Authorised Officer, The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd., Bangalore "Sahakara Sourabha" No.234, 2nd Cross, 4th Main, Chamarajapet, Bengaluru-560018, for ascertaining the details of property and also for inspection of property (Contact No.080-41277283) E-Mail:ho@hicbank.com

Date: 28.07.2020
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
The Hotel Industrialists Co-Op Bank Ltd.

Senior film actor, theatre artiste and writer Raavi Kondala Rao, who had appeared in more than 600 Telugu films, died of cardiac arrest at the age of 88 in a private hospital in Hyderabad on Tuesday

Covid-19 curve rises in Kerala, TN

Active cases in Kerala cross 10-K mark; most of fatalities in Tamil Nadu with comorbities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @T'Puram

KERALA'S capital Thiruvananthapuram has emerged as the hotbed of Covid-19 as it turned out that one in 18 tests result positive. While the state average is one out of 36 tests, the national average is one out of 12.

At the same time, for the fourth time in the month, the active cases reported in a day crossed the 1000 mark with Tuesday recording 1,167 cases. While the total cases surpassed the 20,000 mark and stands at 20, 894, the active cases crossed the 10,000 mark and stands at 10,093. Contact transmission cases also recorded its highest ever mark with the day recording 888 such cases. Taking the tally of Covid deaths in the state to 67, four deaths were reported.

"It seems that the virus spreads rather fast in the capital district. To identify infected persons a special surveillance mechanism has also been set up. At the state level, it turned out that marriage and funeral functions were becoming places of infection transmission. In some areas, marriage clusters have also been formed. To corroborate it several incidents are also being reported," said Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister.

Sanitation workers on the move after spraying disinfectant in the Arumbakkam area in Chennai after the city recorded 1,107 Covid-19 cases on Tuesday | DEBADATTA MALLICK

Meanwhile, Tamil Nadu recorded 6,972 new Covid-19 cases on Tuesday, taking the tally to 2,27,688. As many as 85 of the 88 people who succumbed to the infection on the day, had comorbid conditions.

Chennai alone recorded 1,107 cases, while its neighbouring districts Chengalpet, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur recorded 365, 223 and 486 cases respectively.

A total of 61,153 samples and 59,584 people were tested in the State on the day. Bringing some cheer to Chennai residents, the city's recovery rate has reached 84.3 per cent. The hospitals are also receiving a breather with only 50-60 per cent beds in these centres being occupied right now. According to the bulletin issued by the Directorate of Public Health, two more private labs -- Agam Diagnostics in Madurai and Department of Microbiology at SRM MCH in Trichy – have been recently approved for Covid-19 testing.

CRITICAL PATIENTS MUST GET BEDS: JAGAN

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Vijayawada

COVID-19 patients with severe symptoms must get beds in hospital within 30 minutes, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy asserted on Tuesday, amid reports that infectees were finding it hard to get admitted to hospitals. "Use the available beds effectively. There should be no complaints that Covid-19 patients were not allotted beds. Collectors and Joint Collectors will be held responsible if patients don't get beds within 30 minutes," he said, and warned of action against hospitals that deny admission to people who contracted coronavirus.

"We have 128 district hospitals for Covid-19 patients. Officials should monitor the facilities available there. The bed strength and availability at each of these hospitals, and at the 10 state-level hospitals, should be displayed online," the Chief Minister told officials during a Spandana review meeting with district Collectors and Superintendents of Police via videoconferencing.

The toll-free numbers for patients to lodge complaints should also be displayed, he said, and added that the toll-free numbers 104 and 14410, and the district-level toll-free numbers must be publicised.

'Educating Third World nations on eco health will be a challenge'

Prof Kusal K Das will take charge as dean at UNESCO

MAHESH M GOUDAR @Vijayapura

PROFESSOR Dr Kusal K Das, head of the Department of Physiology of BLDEA's Shri B M Patil Medical College, Hospital and Research Centre, was appointed Dean of the Department of Environmental Health under the United Nations Education Science and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Life Science. He is the first Asian to be appointed to this post.

A visiting lecturer at globally acclaimed universities of US, England and New Zealand, he has authored research papers and is the recipient of the GP Chatterjee Memorial Award, and other awards. The professor spoke to *TNIE* about environmental health, and the challenges ahead. **Excerpts:**

How excited are you about your new task?

I cannot put it into words as I am the first Asian to be appointed Dean of the Department of Environmental Health under UNESCO, and was appointed unanimously. I am thankful to all the professors who proposed my name for this position, and will be one of my biggest achievements.

What is your job as dean?

My job is to expand the varsity's network globally. UNESCO is connected with universities in Europe and America, but less with Asian and African countries. When weak and strong varsities collaborate, chances of progress are higher. I will work to get varsities from Third World countries sign MoUs with acclaimed universities to encourage research and academics.

What are the challenges ahead of you?

Educating Third World countries on environmental health, and to encourage students of those countries to take up research work. No Indian varsities offer Masters in Environmental Health. In western countries, the curriculum is based purely on research, but here, it is only a dissertation. In my five-year tenure, I will try to promote research-based curriculum.

Is it time for Indian universities to include Environmental Health as a course?

Yes, each challenge we now face is connected to environmental health – thousands of people are affected due to pollution in Delhi, deaths due to malnutrition are rising, there is also consumption of poor quality food and water. India is one of the countries which have neglected environmental health.

Q&A

Is the government giving prominence to environmental health?

Activists have fought hard for environment, and governments are now aware because of recent calamities, including Covid-19. Health was never a top priority in our nation and it is clearly visible as we are grappling with the health crisis. We never had strong policies on environment but now, governments are framing good policies.

What about funds for research work in India?

The government grants only 0.87% of its GDP, whereas Israel grants above 4% and China above 2.5% for research. The funds have to be distributed across many sectors.

Despite containment, all areas at risk: Expert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

BUT BBMP officials said that they have been monitoring cases effectively. "Our field officers are doing a good job. It takes time to locate positive people as exact addresses are not shared. Otherwise, barricading is done on the same day or the next day," said Basavaraj, a nodal officer, BBMP, who is in charge of containment zones.

Marshals and police have been put on the job to ensure that rules are not violated. Citizens under home quarantine and primary and secondary contacts are stamped, another senior BBMP official said.

But many residents within containment zones complained that they cannot move around as areas are sealed and said only a positive person should be quarantined and not entire roads. Also, they are finding it difficult to find food, the residents said. "There has been a problem because of the rise in cases. It will be looked into and sorted out soon," a BBMP officer said. Some officials said that the city has too many committees and officers are changed midway, leading to confusion.

PAW POWER

Tigers from Maharashtra make U-K their home

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Hubballi

EVEN as there are restrictions for people entering from Maharashtra due to the ongoing pandemic, wild tigers have travelled close to 300 km across state borders. They have crossed several wildlife areas and villages.

A male tiger, which was residing in Chandoli National Park of Sahyadri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has now made Kali Tiger Reserve in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka its new home. The tiger was first camera-trapped in 2018 in Sahyadri Tiger Reserve Nandurbar and in May 2020 the same tiger has been seen in Kali Tiger Reserve in Dandeli.

The officials from the Karnataka forest department said the tiger (T-31) has been photographed multiple times between April and May. In the last two years the tiger covered close to 150 sqkm area as per the camera trap images.

Tiger (T-31) photographed in Sahyadri Reserve in Maharashtra | EXPRESS

"The distance between two wildlife areas is about 225 km but it may have taken longer for the tiger to move through the fragmented landscape. The finding reinforces the fact that the tiger corridors in Central Western Ghats are still viable," said a senior official from the wildlife division. The department has also noted that the Kali Tiger Reserve is emerging as a significant source population for tigers in the connected landscape of North Karnataka-Goa-Southern Maharashtra. In 2020, about 25 adult tigers have been recorded in camera traps in Kali Tiger Reserve. The efforts that were put in by the officials of the Forest Department in Kali then are showing results now.

Field director, Kali Tiger Reserve, Maria Christu Raja D said that the Kali Reserve has the potential to be the source of tigers for the entire North Karnataka-Goa-Southern Maharashtra landscape. "Patrolling has been intensified. We are trying to improvise our routines based on intelligence. Boat patrolling is also being done in Kodasalli backwaters," he said.

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN : U85110KA1970SGC001919

No: KPCL/2020-21/PS/WORK_INDENT/10247 Date: 23.07.2020

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The details of e-tenders for the below mentioned work of EE(CHP)E-1 division of RTPS published on **23.07.2020** in Karnataka Gok e-portal **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** for the work of **Cable Unreeling/Reeling, Segregation, Arranging of materials in C-godown & shifting of scrap materials to RTPS store.** Category: **Works.** EMD: **Rs.5,100/-.** Last date for receipt of tenders: **07.08.2020 up to 16.00 Hrs.** All the relevant details of the tender is available in the above mentioned e-Portal. Any clarifications may be had from the office of the **Superintendent Engineer (CHP)E, RTPS, Shaktinagar-584170. Raichur Dist. Mobile No.: 9449596593.**

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE SERVICES

No.3335/DHFWS/C1/Bread/2020-21 Dated : 29/07/2020

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER
for the SUPPLY OF BREAD for the year 2020-21
TENDER ID : 2020_MH_6451_1

On behalf of the President of India, "e-tenders" are invited by the Director of Health and Family Welfare Services, Puducherry, for the **SUPPLY OF BREAD** to the Health Institutions in Puducherry and Karaikal region for the year 2020-21.

Bidders should submit their tender online at the Government website **https://pudutenders.gov.in**. The tender details, Specifications, Terms & Conditions and time schedule may also be downloaded from the website **https://www.py.gov.in. The last date for submission of tender by online is 18.08.2020 upto 16.00 Hrs.**

No.114/DIP/AD(Press)/2020-21 **Dr.S.MOHAN KUMAR DIRECTOR**

Bangalore Metropolitian Transport Corporation
Civil Engineering Department, K H Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru - 560 027.

No. BMTC: CO/CE/EE/299/2020-21 Dated: 24.07.2020

Quotation

a) Sealed quotations are invited from reputed rewinders / firms for **repairs to submersible bore well motor & pump with necessary rewinding / repairs testing & commissioning lifting, lowering if necessary along with HDPE / GI pipes of different size / depth with all lead & lift including transportation and connected works** in BMTC Depots / Bus Station / Quarters located in and around Bangalore.

b) Sealed quotations are invited from reputed licensed Individual / firms for **servicing, repairs & replacement of spares & up keeping of UPS** in BMTC Depots, Bus Stations, TTMC's, Workshops & Central Office located in and around Bangalore for a period of **two years** from the date of entering into agreement.

c) Sealed quotations are invited from reputed registered or authorised for servicing Individual / firms for providing **servicing, repairs & replacement of spares & up keeping of Air Conditioning units** functional in BMTC Depots, Bus Stations, TTMC's, Workshops & Central Office located in and around Bangalore for a period of **two years** from the date of entering into agreement.

Receipt of Quotation: **07.08.2020**. Date of opening of Quotation: **10.08.2020**. Any other information required can be obtained from the Office of the Executive Engineer during working hours.

Sd/-,
DIPR/B-Urban/668/2020-21 **Executive Engineer**, BMTC

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
Office of the Regional Transport Officer
K.R. Puram, Bangalore

No.: RTO.KR PUR/DSA.PR/AUCTION/20-21 Dtd: 27-07-2020

NOTIFICATION
PROCLAMATION OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES SIEZED FOR NON PAYMENT OF TAX.

It is hereby notified for the information of Public, that the motor vehicles checked, seized and detained by the Transport Department for nonpayment of tax and penalty, will be Auctioned in public on **26th August 2020 at 10.00 AM** in the office of the Regional Transport Officer KR Puram, Bangalore in as is where condition.

The Registration number of the vehicles tax due in respect of each vehicle and the place of garage of the vehicles are mentioned in the table given below. Interested parties are as liberty to inspect the vehicles before participating in the Auction proceedings.

CONDITIONS

Twenty five percent of purchase money shall be paid immediately after the sale, and the balance amount of purchase shall be paid with seven days from the date of sale. In default of making such payment, the vehicle shall be sold to the next highest bidder.

Sl. No.	Registration Number	Class of Vehicle	Place of Garage
1	KA-02-D-0651	AUTORICKSHAW	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
2	KA-04-B-1683	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
3	KA-50-2157	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
4	KA-17-B-2268	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
5	KA-40-3137	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
6	KA-03-B-8505	L.G.V	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
7	KA-53-A-4739	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
8	KA-04-A-9482	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
9	KA-43-8595	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 29 KR PURAM
10	KA-41-9858	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 48 BYRATHI
11	KA-40-4396	L.G.V	BMTC DEPO 48 BYRATHI
12	KA-41-5835	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 48 BYRATHI
13	KA-05-AC-2698	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
14	KA-05-C-5090	AUTORICKSHAW	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
15	KA-05-AA-8631	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
16	AP-03-TA-9383	P S V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
17	KA-13-B-2653	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
18	KA-04-D-0621	LAXURY TAXI	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
19	KA-01-AJ-2843	M G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
20	KA-06-7722	L G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
21	KA-53-2972	M G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
22	KA-11-4926	M G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
23	KA-08-4827	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
24	KA-26-D-3637	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
25	KA-41-A-0432	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
26	KA-50-4298	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
27	KA-02-C-9518	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
28	KA-53-0254	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
29	KA-04-A-1327	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
30	KA-04-C-0041	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
31	KA-53-7456	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
32	KA-01-D-9437	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
33	KA-03-C-0788	M G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
34	KA-55-0489	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
35	KA-53-1268	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
36	KA-05-A-8258	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
37	KA-51-B-6623	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
38	KA-07-D-2853	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
39	KA-05-D-8258	M G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
40	KA-08-7152	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
41	KA-02-AB-9729	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
42	KA-40-9617	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
43	KA-02-C-4639	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
44	KA-09-B-4833	MAXI CAB	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
45	KA-02-A-6688	H G V	BMTC DEPO 39 HOSAKOTE
46	KA-03-B-9716	MAXI CAB	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
47	KA-06-B-9720	MAXI CAB	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
48	KA-14-A-4449	MAXI CAB	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
49	KA-03-AD-4787	AUTORICKSHAW	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
50	KA-03-D-0906	LAXURY TAXI	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
51	KA-05-A-6216	AUTORICKSHAW	RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES
52	Chassis No. 9-811478-M-1999(JCB)		RTO KR PUR OFFICE PREMISES

DIPR/DDU/664/2020-21 **Sd/- Regional Transport Officer K R Puram, Bangalore.**

IHCL
ORIENTAL HOTELS LIMITED
CIN : L55101TN1970PLC005897
Regd. Office : 'Taj Coromandel' No.37, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Chennai 600034.
Phone No. : 044 - 66172828. Fax No. : 044 - 28278138. Website : www.orientalhotels.co.in

UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

(₹ in lakhs)

Particulars	Standalone				Consolidated			
	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	Year ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)	Year ended 31.03.2020 (Audited)
Total Income from operations	755	7220	6844	30134	755	7232	6889	29883
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (before Exceptional items)	(3298)	(72)	(697)	(281)	(3300)	(69)	(665)	(562)
Net Profit / (Loss) for the period before tax (after Exceptional items)	(3298)	(72)	(775)	(359)	(3300)	(69)	(743)	(640)
@ Net Profit / (Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items)	(2340)	(18)	(573)	(379)	(3129)	115	(755)	(826)
Total Comprehensive Income for the period (Comprising profit/(loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	(2233)	(599)	(625)	(1101)	(2636)	1058	(738)	966
Paid-up Equity Share Capital (Face value per share - ₹1 each)	1786	1786	1786	1786	1786	1786	1786	1786
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)				29638				51292
Earnings Per Share (in ₹) (Face value of ₹1 each) : Basic & Diluted (* not annualised)	*(1.31)	*(0.01)	*(0.32)	(0.21)	*(1.75)	*0.06	*(0.42)	(0.46)

@ In case of Consolidated Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax (after Exceptional items) and share of profit / (loss) of associates and jointly controlled entity.

Note :

1. The results were reviewed by the Audit Committee of the Board and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors at its meetings held on July 28, 2020. The results have been reviewed by the Statutory Auditor of the Company.
2. These financial results have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Indian Accounting Standards ("Ind AS") prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with the relevant rules issued thereunder and the other accounting principles generally accepted in India. Financial results for all the periods presented have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement principles of Ind AS.
3. The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarter ended June, 30 2020 Financial Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing and Other Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly/Twelve Months Financial Results are available on the websites of Stock Exchanges at **www.bseindia.com** and **www.nseindia.com** and also on the Company's website at **www.orientalhotels.co.in.**

For **ORIENTAL HOTELS LIMITED**

Pramod Ranjan
Managing Director
(DIN : 00887569)

Place : Chennai
Date : July 28, 2020

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

EDITORIAL

"China undoubtedly has its fears about Pakistan's long-term future. ... But friendship, the one commodity Pakistan can offer China more convincingly than any other country, matters far more to Beijing than it used to

Andrew Small

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

MONSOON PROGRESS COULD HURT INDIA FURTHER

A hefty economic contraction induced by the global health crisis may not be the only challenge India has to handle this year. Going by the monsoon's progress, things do not look very bright for the already-stressed agriculture sector. At least 219 districts (around 30%) have recorded deficient rainfall since the onset of the South-west monsoon. Cumulative data shows that four states received deficient rainfall between June 1 and July 28, the shortfall ranging from 20% to 59%. The July rainfall makes this scenario even more critical with eight districts in the red zone. Madhya Pradesh has a 44% rain deficit, Rajasthan recorded a 36% shortfall and Odisha 31%. Even Kerala, the monsoon state of India, is reeling with a 40% deficiency in July itself. A big state like Uttar Pradesh, which is in the normal rainfall category, also has reason to worry, with 28 out of its 75 districts in the deficit zone.

If this news is not bad enough, an American agency has now projected a drop in rainfall over the north-central regions of the country. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), there is a strong probability of a decrease in the occurrence of monsoon low pressure systems. The systems are not just the primary monsoon rain triggers over the subcontinent, they also account for more than half the annual precipitation in the north and central parts of the country, the NOAA said, adding that it may have far-reaching socio-economic consequences. This does not augur well for the farm sector as agriculture will have to play a major role in the recovery of the Indian economy after the back-breaking impact of the coronavirus. If the NOAA projections hold right, a drought cannot be ruled out in many parts of the country. It is the farming community that would feel the heat of the weather as well as the market in case of such an eventuality.

The recent reforms brought in by the government to the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act and Essential Commodities Act may have come at the nick of time, but a closer vigil must be maintained over the monsoon's progress and impact.

MEDICAL SEATS AND OBC QUOTA

The Madras High Court, in a significant judgment, has paved the way for OBC reservations in the All India Quota (AIQ) of medical seats. As significant as the judgment was the unity of virtually every political party in Tamil Nadu—barring the BJP—in moving the court demanding that the state's 50% OBC quota be applied on the seats surrendered to the AIQ. Each state gives 15% of undergraduate medical and dental seats and 50% of postgraduate medical and dental seats to the AIQ. While a 2006 law created a 27% OBC quota for medical admissions in central institutions, such a quota has not been applied in the seats surrendered by the state. Activists claim that thousands of seats that ought to have gone to OBC candidates have gone to general category students instead.

The court, in its judgment, made it clear that there was no legal or constitutional impediment over providing OBC reservations. Quotas are already there in the AIQ for SC/ST candidates and for those from economically weaker sections belonging to the general category. Further, TN's laws provide for a 50% quota for OBCs; the Centre, in its submissions, was not averse to the quota if the total reservations did not exceed 50%. The court has told the Centre to form a panel with the state to work out the modalities of the quota for the next academic year.

While the Centre may appeal against the order, the court's reasoning is straightforward and relies on the Union government's own actions in implementing the SC/ST and EWS quotas in the AIQ. The order, while dealing only with TN, also opens the door to other states to make similar claims. In this context, the best way forward for the Centre may be to formulate a way for providing the OBC quota in the AIQ that can be applied across states. However, given accusations that the BJP-led government in the Centre has been attempting to dilute the OBC quota, it remains to be seen whether it is willing to do so.

Balochistan is the weakest link in the China-Pak axis. India should shed its reticence or risk being geopolitically outflanked by the enemy in the north

IS IT TIME TO PLAY THE BALOCH CARD?

NEENA GOPAL
Independent journalist and author

AMIT BANDRE

While all eyes are on China's intrusions into Ladakh, where its military seeks to aggressively enforce the 1960 claim line, the hitherto unarticulated motive behind Beijing's bid to block India from having a free run on its near complete Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie road link from Leh to the DBO airbase may stem from an altogether more complex challenge further south.

With one attack after another by Baloch insurgents on Chinese targets now spilling over into Sindh, the latest being the June 29 four-man assault by the Balochistan Liberation Army on the Karachi Stock Exchange (40% of which is owned by a consortium of three Chinese bourses), Beijing is growing increasingly nervous over Pakistan's inability to curb the raging Baloch insurgency that has put the $60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project at risk.

As inept as the KSE attack may have been, giving rise to speculation that it was a false flag operation by Islamabad to tar India with the Baloch terror tag, the November 2018 attack by the BLA on the Chinese consulate in Karachi was an early warning that despite the drop in the number of attacks by Baloch separatists, the anger among ordinary Balochis over the rising number of disappearances is unlikely to dissipate.

China is not taking any chances. In sealing off Ladakh after the June 15 clash, the People's Liberation Army has ensured it now controls access right up to the so-called 'Y-Nallah' at the strategic confluence of the Galwan-Shyok rivers. In effect, Indian forces will be denied unfettered access to the Karakoram Highway, Pakistan-held Gilgit Baltistan, Tibet and Kashgar in vulnerable Xinjiang, where India could fish in troubled waters given that the native Uighurs are being intimidated into silence with forced sterilisations and disappearances. And for all of India's bluster on retaking Aksai Chin, military strategists are now having to factor in the new reality—a twin pincer threat posed by China and Pakistan working in tandem to pin India down on both its western and eastern borders.

The CPEC, which runs from Xinjiang through Gilgit-Baltistan and Punjab to the sprawling port city of Gwadar in Balochistan, is integral to the Chinese President Xi Jinping's flagship Belt and Road Initiative. But its import may well be far wider, with India not only caught napping on China's ingress into the Galwan Valley, but also blind to how far Beijing will go to secure its interests.

The warm water port of Gwadar and access to the Indian Ocean is central to the BRI, as it secures China's quest for an alternative land and sea route if the Indo-Pacific maritime sea lanes through the Malacca Straits and the South and East China sea are thwarted by the coming together of a new-found alliance of nations ranged against it.

But in a demonstration that China sees the need to step away from the threat posed by the belligerent Baloch, Xi's 'two-ocean strategy' of securing the Indo-Pacific as well as the Indian Ocean region with a Plan 'B' unfolded last week when the nimble-footed Chinese not only cocked a snook at the US by pitching to buy Iranian oil but also leaked details of plans to invest in the Iranian port of Chabahar that India has long had an eye on.

Iran's quibble over building the railway line to Zahedan delivered the final coup de grace to a waffling Delhi, caught between jeopardising longstanding ties with Tehran and the new-found commonality of interests with Washington.

The challenge ahead for China will be how it navigates the treacherous waters of the Gulf, where a link up with Iran could mean it has to cut ties with Iran's enemy and America's main ally in the region, Saudi Arabia. Pakistan runs the danger of angering the Saudis and the UAE, who have kept the Pakistan economy afloat. Iran and Pakistan, long suspicious of each other over terror groups Jundullah and Jaish-e-Adil that foment trouble in Balochistan and Iran's Sistan Balochistan province, must also find a new equilibrium.

Beijing realises the need to step away from the Baloch threat ... The nimble-footed Chinese not only cocked a snook at the US by pitching to buy Iranian oil but also leaked details of plans to invest in the Iranian port of Chabahar

For China, Chabahar may not be the well-established port cities that Gwadar or Karachi are, where it has built container terminals, and nuclear and coal power plants. But unlike the other naval outposts in its zone of influence such as Kyaukpyu in Myanmar, Colombo and Hambantota in Sri Lanka, and even Djibouti, both Gwadar and Karachi are under threat from Baloch separatists, casting a shadow over the big prize, CPEC. The Iranian port on the critical Straits of Hormuz could be China's new fall-back port of choice. And in the continuing geopolitical outflanking of India, Afghanistan could be next.

As America goes into election mode without completing the drawdown of US forces in Afghanistan or the peace talks with the Taliban, China is looking at building greater links with Kabul by investing in its natural resources and connecting through the tiny sliver of land—the 46-mile Wakhan corridor through the Wakhjir Pass—on the historic Silk Road. Despite the harsh terrain, China has quietly built a road network that connects Kashgar to Islamabad and into Central Asia. Security analysts believe the greater import is that it presages a wider Chinese military footprint, if American troops leave as planned.

India's foot-dragging on capitalising on the weakest link in China and Pakistan must therefore end. In 2016, with a mention of the Baloch people's aspirations in his Independence Day speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the hopes of Baloch leader Brahmadagh Bugti, grandson of Nawab Bugti (hunted down and killed by former Pakistan president Pervez Musharraf's forces in 2006) and Hyrbyair Marri. Both were seeking asylum in India and a bully pulpit from which they could launch a vocal—not armed—campaign for an end to the use of CPEC as a means to keep their people under subjugation.

Under the Imran Khan government, voices of dissent have been brutally silenced. The mutilated body of Baloch journalist Haji Abdul Razaq, who disappeared four months ago, was found days ago. Four social workers of Ost, the Balochistan-based welfare organisation who have peacefully protested the disappearances, have not been heard from.

Pakistan believes—as does China—that with alleged Indian spy and former naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav, accused of espionage in Balochistan—not terrorism—they have a tool to keep India off balance. Perhaps it's time for Delhi to shed its reticence and play the Baloch card. Or risk being geopolitically outflanked by the enemy in the north.

(neenagopal@gmail.com)

BANGLADESH TOO ON THE CHINESE RADAR

PINAK RANJAN CHAKRAVARTY
Former Ambassador, Ex-Secretary in MEA & currently a Visiting Fellow at ORF, Delhi

Bangladesh, like many countries, is struggling with the challenge of the Chinese-origin Covid-19 as well as corruption charges against health officials. The director-general of its health services was sacked recently. An unauthorised hospital in Dhaka was caught issuing false Covid negative certificates. Its owner has been arrested. Adding to the challenge is the massive flooding this season. Bangladesh and India are no strangers to the annual havoc. In India, flooding has inundated large tracts of land in Assam. The Ganga-Brahmaputra *jugalbandi* creates one of the largest deltas in Bangladesh and the humungous volume of water these two rivers discharge during the monsoon causes untold death and destruction.

Recent comments made by a Kolkata-based Bengali newspaper on China granting duty-free entry to 97% of Bangladeshi products caused a minor kerfuffle. Bangladesh, as an LDC (least developed country), has been asking Beijing for this facility for several years but avoided any media clamour, which is the preferred tool against India on contentious issues—border killings being one of them. China's move soon after the bloody Galwan clashes led to speculation about its motives. The Kolkata newspaper called it *Khairati*, meaning charity, and Bangladeshis took umbrage to this characterisation, triggering outrage in media and social media. Several social media comments supported China on the Galwan clashes, exposing latent anti-India sentiments. There is no media outrage against China for spreading Covid. China's role in supporting Pakistan's attempt to brutally suppress Bangladesh's freedom struggle is long forgotten, as is the fact that China refused to recognise Bangladesh as an independent country till after the assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rehman, hailed as father of the nation. Times have changed. China has successfully bought the silence of Bangladeshi media and many others.

The media clamour drew in the Bangladesh foreign minister, who tried to calm things down and refused to make any official protest. The Kolkata newspaper helped by issuing an apology. This issue again highlighted unusual sensitivity about China, which has been wooing Bangladesh with billions of dollars in investments. All of India's neighbours have joined Beijing's BRI and China's penetration in India's neighbourhood is in top gear. Bangladesh has latched on to the "China Card", publicly calling India and China development partners. Pakistan is already a client state and Nepal is on a similar track. Bhutan is under pressure with China raising fresh claims on the unmarked border. Bangladesh is now on the Chinese radar as part of its policy of creating turbulence in India's relations with her neighbours.

Meanwhile, not much attention has been paid by the media to the birth of a new political party in May as Covid spread its tentacles. Established by former members of the pro-Pakistani Islamist Party, Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI), after almost a year's preparation, this was a move waiting to happen, though the timing seems somewhat strange. The new political party, first named Jana Akaankhaar (Public Aspiration) Bangladesh, was later renamed Amar Bangladesh Party (ABP). The founding members of this new party are those who were expelled from the JeI.

China's role in supporting Pakistan's attempt to brutally suppress Bangladesh's freedom struggle is long forgotten ... Beijing has successfully bought the silence of most of Bangladesh's media

The JeI, notorious for its radical Islamic views and collaboration with the genocidal Pakistan Army, was accused of war crimes and several of its top leaders were convicted and executed after convictions by the War Crimes Tribunal. Some JeI leaders were expelled for attempting to reform the party, for making it more acceptable to the people of Bangladesh. The stigma of collaboration with Pakistan was the primary factor. The so-called reformers wanted JeI leaders, accused of war crimes, to step aside from leadership positions and formally apologise for their role in the 1971 War of Liberation. This led to an internal struggle culminating in the expulsion of the so-called reformers.

The ABP announced that it had decided not to join the "politics of corruption and looting" and work for the "rights of the people". The new party hopes to position itself by paying homage to "all the martyrs and patriots, including freedom fighters and those who gave their lives in the language movement" and aims to "turn the country into a welfare state, regardless of race, caste, religion, and forging national unity in the spirit of the War of Liberation". Declaring that the party "will not be based on religion nor on any ideology", it has avoided mentioning secularism.

The first salvo against the new party came from the Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee, which has campaigned relentlessly for trials against war criminals. The Committee called the new party an "act of deception". It has alleged that the ABP remains committed to Maududi's ideals and Wahaabi philosophy that contain the seeds of fascism and jihadi radicalism. Pointing out the atrocities committed by the JeI's student wing Islami Chattra Shibir since it was rehabilitated by the military dictator Gen Zia-ur-Rahman (who usurped power in 1977), it reminded the public that Shibir terrorists all operated with the patronage of the BNP-JeI coalition government. It labelled the ABP as new wine in an old bottle.

The ABP will not have an easy path in Bangladesh's contested polity. In the eyes of much of the population, it will be regarded as a clone of the JeI. Voters seem to prefer mainstream political parties, underlining thereby their preference for keeping Islamists away from state power. The Islamists understand this and have toiled hard to build their influence in education and social welfare domains. The ABP is likely to fragment the Islamist vote further and, therefore, should not worry the Awami League. The BNP, however, stands to lose as it cannot expect the JeI to obtain enough seats to form an effective coalition when it comes to mustering a majority in Parliament. From India's perspective, China's machinations in Bangladesh will need monitoring closely.

Views are personal (pr.chakravarty@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

The need for dissent

Judges have often pointed out the need for dissent. So it is illogical on their part to say that their judgments or the manner in which they conduct themselves cannot be questioned (*My Lord's, threat of contempt is not the remedy*, July 28). Are judges, as humans, not liable to err? Is corruption in the judiciary a rarity?

P G Menon, Chennai

Abolish contempt power

In a democracy, everyone has the right to dissent. The initiation of contempt proceedings by the judiciary against them is an attempt to stop such criticism.

M G Krishna Kumar, Thiruvananthapuram

Seervai's words appropriate

The article is timely. We have seen many inconsistencies in the way different cases are dealt with by courts. The remarks of late H M Seervai that have been mentioned in the article are appropriate.

V Sathyanarayanan, Tiruchanoor

Perils of unbridled freedom

The importance of freedom of speech cannot be disputed. That the provision of contempt against the judiciary needs to be abolished is not without substance. But unbridled freedom is likely to encourage some anti-national elements to strike at the roots of democracy itself.

N R S Sathyamurthy, Cuddalore

Apex court was not wrong

As criticism reached the level of personal vilification, it was quite right on the part of the Supreme Court to say that enough is enough. The contemnor has every opportunity to explain his position and vindicate his stand. So the criticism is not justified.

A Raveendranath, Aranmula

Article was good, but ...

The article is good. But what will be the end if one questions every judgment or action in the name of freedom of speech? It was not necessary to highlight someone like Prashant Bhushan.

M Suresh Kumar, Chennai

Prison overcrowding

Overcrowding of prisons all over India is a long-standing problem (*Our country's prisons are a ticking virus time bomb*, July 28). The editorial has aptly highlighted the gravity of the issue, especially in these Covid times.

S Arjun Prasanna, Bengaluru

Ban on more apps welcome

India has done well to put the lid on another set of Chinese apps. While the development must undoubtedly please homegrown app makers, it is another slap on the face of our neighbours after their recent aggression at the border.

N J Ravi Chander, Bengaluru

Boost to our air power

Five Rafale fighter jets are on their way to India from France. They will hugely boost our country's air power and make us the envy of the neighbourhood.

P P Sahadevan, Nileshwar

In front of empty stands

After a lot of uncertainty, the IPL is going to be held in the UAE (*The challenge for new-look IPL*, July 28). The BCCI and the franchises must ensure that the new Covid-era guidelines are strictly followed. It will be interesting to see how quickly the cricketers adapt to playing before empty galleries.

R Sivakumar, Chennai

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Rahul Gandhi @RahulGandhi
They snatched jobs, grabbed the accumulated savings, but could not even stop the disease from spreading...

Omar Abdullah @OmarAbdullah
I've simply said that having been CM of the STATE of J&K I will not fight an assembly election to the assembly of the UT of J&K. That's it.

Asaduddin Owaisi @asadowaisi
Attending Bhumi Pujan in official capacity will be a violation of PMO's constitutional oath. Secularism is part of the Basic Structure of Constitution

IMPROVEMENT

Coronavirus case fatality rate reduces to 2.25%

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

INDIA'S Covid-19 case fatality rate on Tuesday came further down to 2.25 per cent, and the Centre claimed this is a result of effective implementation of containment strategy combined with house-to-house surveys, aggressive testing and standardised clinical management protocols.

India now has 14,83,156 confirmed Covid-19 cases with 33,425 deaths. The country registered 47,703 new cases and 654 deaths in the last 24 hours. It has 4,96,988 active cases.

"Under the guidance of the Central government, state governments have focused on reducing the fatalities by effectively managing the severe cases and prioritising care of the high-risk population using field health care workers leading to a decrease in the CFR across the country," said the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in a statement.

Country's CFR has reduced from around 3.33 per cent in mid-June to 2.25 per cent today.

The ramped-up three-tier hospital infrastructure along with prompt and seamless patient management has helped consistent increase in the recoveries, the health ministry said.

For the fifth day in a row, there have been more than 30,000 recoveries per day.

"The focused efforts of Centre and state governments on early detection and isolation along with handholding of states by the expert teams of AIIMS, New Delhi for efficient clinical management of hospitalised cases and periodic visits of central teams, have borne results with continuously improving recovery rate," the ministry added.

Under the guidance of the Central government, state governments have focused on reducing the fatalities by effectively managing the severe cases and prioritising care of the high-risk population
Health Ministry

The Union government has been focusing on ramping up the number of tests carried out every day.

As per the figures of the ICMR, for the past three days, the total number of samples tested is over 5 lakh per day and on Monday this figure touched a record high of 5,28,082 tests. PM Narendra Modi on Monday announced that this number would further be significantly increased to 1 million tests per day in the coming weeks.

'Covid-19 peak in Uttarakhand not arrived yet'

UTTARAKHAND is yet to see a wave of peaks in Covid-19 cases, and it is scaling up health facilities to meet the challenges posed by the global pandemic. The state saw a sudden rise in coronavirus cases because of a few super-spreaders, said ***Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat*** *in conversation with* ***Prabhu Chawla, Editorial Director, The New Indian Express****, on TNIE's Expressions, a series of live webcasts with people who matter.*

Uttarakhand is a Devbhoomi and a state with better environmental conditions. It's a matter of concern that the pandemic has also reached the state. How are you responding?
The pandemic has to be responded in all seriousness and the state, right from the outset, has been on alert. There was a sudden burst in the Covid-19 cases. One of the employees in an industry here got infected while attending a wedding ceremony in another state. He infected more than 200 other employees. Since he was asymptomatic, the case could not be detected initially. Afterwards, more than 850 cases were detected with more testing. But two districts are still free of the virus, while the principal reason for its spread in the state has been the people who came from other states.

Has the spread of the outbreak been contained or you think that the peak is yet to come?
The peak is yet to come in the state, as there are still more than 2,000 active cases, while 3,500 patients have recovered.

Is it true that the state has not ramped up its capacities, including beds, ventilators, as is being alleged by the Congress?
There are 32,587 beds ready in the state, while the total cases are 5,547, of which 3,430 have recovered. The active cases are 2,017 only. As many as 23,000 beds are lying unoccupied. There are 294 ICU beds and 249 ventilators.

Don't you think the states are not paying attention to preventive steps including wearing masks?
It's true that preventive steps should be strictly followed. That's why we have made wearing face masks in public mandatory. The state has collected fines amounting to ₹8 crore. Those who hide the cases will invite the CrPC Section 370, and if there is a death because of cases being hidden, Section 302 would also be slapped.

Has coronavirus prevailed over the development agenda?
I admit that corona is the foremost challenge we are facing right now. We have already spent a little under ₹100 crore to fight it. The state has suffered a revenue loss of ₹4,000 crore. But the Centre and the 15th Finance Commission have suitably supported the state.

Do environmentalists raise concerns on infrastructure projects?
Uttarakhand has 71 per cent of its areas covered with forest, which is protected by the locals. Construction of roads is important, with the state having an international border.

There are concerns about holding Kumbh in the wake of the pandemic?
Kumbh is held as per the tradition, and the decision is taken by the Akhada Parishad. The saints say it should be held. But it needs to be seen depending on the Covid-19 situation.

Raj govt sticks to demand for session from July 31

Gehlot cabinet rejects governor's proposal of 21-day notice to MLAs

RAJESH ASNANI @Jaipur

THE Rajasthan impasse continued with the Ashok Gehlot government on Tuesday sending a revised proposal to Governor Kalraj Mishra Cabinet for holding the assembly session.

The state Cabinet rejected the condition put forth by the governor to give a 21-day notice to the MLAs and reiterated its demand for holding the session from July 31.

The revised proposal did not mention whether the trust vote is on the agenda. It also asserts that the government has a majority. Regarding the governor's queries about safety in the light of Covid-19, the government claimed "it is the prerogative of the Assembly Speaker".

The ball now in the governor's court and all eyes are on his response. Mishra had on Monday agreed to hold the assembly session but with three conditions, which included sending a three-day advance notice to the MLAs and a plan for ensuring safety inside the House given the corona threat.

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot with Congress leader Ajay Maken (L) in Jaipur | PTI

ED summons Gehlot's elder brother in PMLA case

The ED has summoned CM Ashok Gehlot's elder brother for questioning in a money-laundering case linked to alleged financial irregularities in exporting fertiliser. Agrasain Gehlot has been asked to depose before the investigating officer on Wednesday in Delhi under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. On July 22, the ED raided Agrasain's premises in Jodhpur and other locations and seized a number of documents.

Speaking to the media after the Cabinet meeting, Revenue Minister Harish Chaudhary said, "It is our right to call the assembly. How the session will be held is the Speaker's prerogative. We want the session on July 31 (Friday)."

Pointing out that assembly sessions were being held in other states, Transport Minister Pratap Singh Khachariyawas said, "In BJP-led Goa, the Assembly session is currently on. Similarly in Bihar where BJP is in power, they are holding a session from August 3 and even in UP they have recommended the start of the session from August 20. They have no excuse to deny Rajasthan an Assembly session on corona argument."

Time to teach Gehlot a lesson, says Mayawati

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@New Delhi/Jaipur

AMID the ongoing political slugfest in Rajasthan, BSP supremo Mayawati on Tuesday hit out at Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, saying "he will be taught a lesson for the theft of MLAs".

Six BSP MLAs had first extended their support to the Gehlot-led government and later, in September 2019, they "merged" with the Congress in Rajasthan.

Mayawati said she would move the Supreme Court against the "unconstitutional merger". Her remarks came on a day when BJP MLA from Kota Madan Dilawar filed a second petition in the Rajasthan High Court challenging the Assembly Speaker's decision allowing the merger of the six BSP MLAs with the Congress. The court had junked his first plea. Hearing on the fresh petition will take place on Wednesday. Mayawati said the Gehlot government was crying foul over poaching of its MLAs while the Congress itself had taken away six BSP legislators last year. In a video shared by a news agency, Mayawati said, "The Congress is saying their MLAs are being stolen which is unlawful and is against the public mandate. Their claim is laughable since they themselves did the same when they took away BSP MLAs. This is akin to the proverb *'ulta chor kotwal ko daante'* (the pot calling the kettle black)."

The Congress is saying their MLAs are being stolen which is unlawful and is against the public mandate. Their claim is laughable... Ulta chor kotwal ko daante
Mayawati, BSP chief

The BSP has also approached the court seeking to be made a party in Dilawar's petition.

"The BSP could have gone to the court earlier, but we were looking for time to teach the Congress and CM Ashok Gehlot a lesson. Now we have decided to go to the court. We will go even to the Supreme Court," said Mayawati.

Refuting Congress allegations of playing into the BJP hands, she said the BSP had ordered the MLAs to vote against Congress in any test of strength in the Assembly.

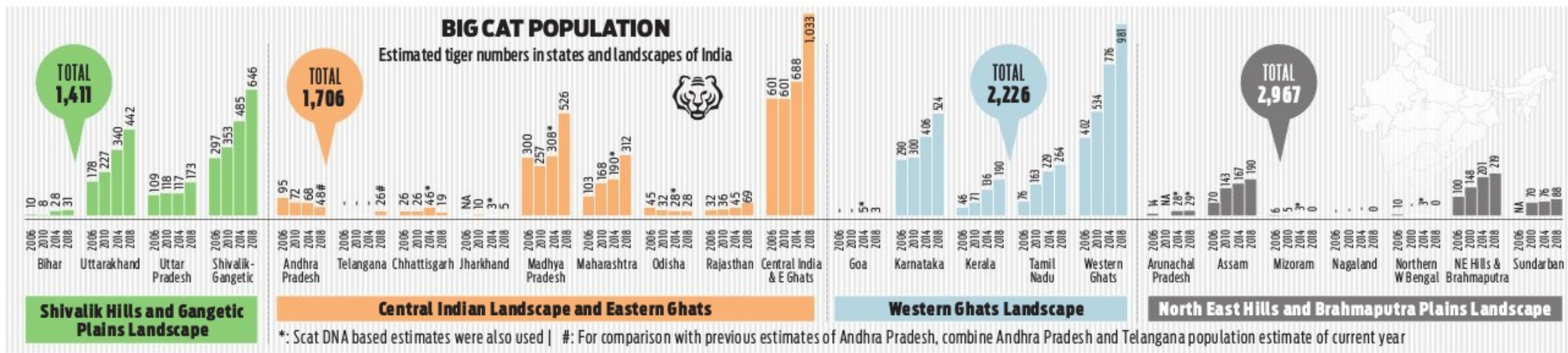
ISI planning terror attack in Ayodhya: Intel agencies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @New Delhi

PAKISTAN'S ISI is planning to carry out a terrorist attack at Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya on August 15, according to sources in intelligence agencies. The neighbouring country's spying agency has been training Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists in Afghanistan to launch the attack, sources said, adding that three to five groups of terrorists are likely to enter Ayodhya for the attack. Pakistan wants the terrorist groups to carry out several attacks and make it seem like an issue of internal security.

The terrorist groups plan to specifically target VVIPs, agencies have found. The sources said the security system has been tightened to keep a check on the activities in Delhi, Ayodhya, and Kashmir.

On August 5, Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to lay the foundation stone of Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya.



*: Scat DNA based estimates were also used | #: For comparison with previous estimates of Andhra Pradesh, combine Andhra Pradesh and Telangana population estimate of current year

INFRA PROJECTS IMPACTING TIGER POPULATION: REPORT

RICHA SHARMA @New Delhi

LARGE-scale coal mining, linear infrastructure projects like national highways, deforestation and habitat defragmentation have impacted the tiger population and reproduction in many reserves in the country, according to a report released by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).

The report says paucity of undisturbed areas and increasing anthropogenic (caused by humans or their activities) pressure have likely delayed reproduction and rapid growth of the big cat population in the Sariska Tiger Reserve.

"Sariska Tiger Reserve is infamous for losing its tiger in the beginning of this century. After additional supplementations and breeding of reintroduced tigers, currently 11 adult tigers are resident in Sariska. Anthropogenic pressure inside Sariska TR is the major concern for the long-term," said the report. The Centre has been talking about balancing environment and development but the report says large-scale mining of coal has caused extensive deforestation in Madhya Pradesh's Umaria district home to Bandhavgarh tiger reserve. "As the area forms a key wildlife corridor between Kanha and Bandhavgarh tiger reserves, it needs to be protected from the increasing anthropogenic pressures," it added.

Feral dogs and poaching are also threatening the tiger population. "Feral dogs were detected in most tiger reserves. Dogs are a threat to both ungulates (which they hunt) and to carnivores, since they carry infectious diseases like rabies, parvovirus, and distemper," highlights the report. Decline in the status of Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, Amrabad, Palamu, NSTR and Dampa reserves can be correlated with a high disturbance regime and poaching.

17 reserves at or close to full tiger capacity

RICHA SHARMA @New Delhi

ONE-THIRD of the country's 50 tiger reserves, including Nagarhole in Karnataka and Mudumalai in Tamil Nadu, are at or nearing carrying capacity and should now focus on protection and reduction of human impact on the big cats, according to the Tiger Status Report by the National Tiger Conservation Authority.

In the 17 tiger reserves that are at or nearing carrying capacity, additional effort to enhance tiger numbers is not essential; mere continuation of protection and reduction of human impact would suffice, the report says.

As many as 19 tiger reserves are still below carrying capacity. With continued investments in conservation efforts and prey density, tiger numbers are likely to increase there. Nine other tiger reserves require interventions in the form of enhanced protection and investments in restoring prey and habitat.

India's tiger population now stands at 2,967, which is 70% of the global tiger population. Also, nearly 30% of India's tigers are present outside tiger reserves.

"The data for Tiger Estimation 2018 has more accuracy in the sense all camera traps were geo-tagged," said NTCA chief S P Yadav. The highest prey densities were recorded for Corbett, Rajaji, Pench-MP and Bandipur. Tiger reserves like Dampa and western Rajaji have reasonable prey and tiger reintroduction/ supplementation can be done there, provided a protection regime is in place. In Buxa and Satkosia tiger reserves, protection needs to be enhanced and prey populations build up before reintroduction/ supplementation can be considered.

Babu's home raided last year

CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

THE NIA had taken over investigation from the Pune police in 2020. The investigating agency named 11 of the 23 accused in the FIR. Babu's home was searched by the Maharashtra police in September 2019. NIA sources said his residence and other places associated with him have not been searched yet but searches could be carried out to look for evidence that might help in the probe.

India should protect foreign investors' rights: Chinese envoy

NEW DELHI: A day after India imposed a ban on 47 more mobile apps for allegedly operating as 'clones' of the 59 Chinese apps banned earlier, a Chinese embassy spokesperson said New Delhi has the responsibility to protect the rights and interests of foreign investors in the country.

"Practical cooperation between China and India is mutually beneficial. Deliberate interference in such cooperation will not serve the interests of the Indian side. China will also take necessary measures to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies," Chinese Embassy in New Delhi spokesperson Ji Rong said in a statement.

On June 29, India had banned 59 Chinese apps in apparent retaliation to Beijing's actions along the India-China border, including the violent June 15 face-off in the Galwan Valley in which 20 Indian soldiers died.

Ji said the ban move severely damaged the rights and interests of Chinese firms. *ENS*

Counselling helps returnees cope in Bihar's hinterland

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@Patna

IKBAL had found himself in a dazed state of weariness. He was irritable and sleep-deprived, days after his return to his native Mushahari in Muzaffarpur post lockdown from Hyderabad, where he worked in a factory.

The sleeplessness had only aggravated after the mandatory 14-day quarantine. He would lay awake, fearing and imagining worse for him, his wife and two daughters. He had lost his job that gave him ₹20,000 per month and free accommodation.

Today, Ikbal works at a welding shop and Mandal sells vegetables. The good thing that happened was that the two went to doctors who referred them to the state health department where experts counselled them. "I am okay I've got some work to do," says Ikbal, and Mandal appears relaxed.

The two are among 13,930 migrants in Bihar who have been counselled for their mental health between April and July, said state government sources.

Manoj Kumar, ED of Bihar State Health Society, said a team of trained medical officers, health professionals and psychiatrists have been arranged to counsel migrant workers. The process also involves ASHA workers.

NC LEADER RESIGNS

National Conference leader Aga Ruhullah has resigned from the post of chief spokesman in protest against party chief Omar Abdullah's call for restoration of statehood and skipping demand for restoration of J&K's special status.

40 PUNJAB COPS VOLUNTEER TO DONATE PLASMA

Ahmedabad	36	25	Mumbai	30	25
Bhopal	34	26	Panaji	30	25
Jaipur	37	27	Patna	33	27
Amritsar	35	25	Lucknow	34	26
Chennai	37	29	Port Blair	31	25
Kolkata	35	28	Imphal	29	22
Srinagar	32	19	Chandigarh	33	26

Assam: No end to loss of life; flood toll at 104

Though overall situation is improving, one more death reported from Darrang district; major rivers still in spate

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Guwahati

ONE more person died in the flood in Assam's Darrang district on Tuesday even as the overall situation is improving in the northeastern state.

While floods have claimed 104 lives so far, 26 others were killed in rain-triggered landslides earlier. According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority, over 19.81 lakh people from 1,771 villages and localities across 21 of the state's 33 districts were reeling under the flood. A fortnight ago, the number of people affected was in excess of 40 lakh and spread across 28 districts.

Altogether, 398 relief camps were operational in 16 districts where 42,275 of the marooned were taking refuge. Personnel of National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response Force and police were engaged in rescue operations.

Major rivers such as Brahmaputra, Dhansiri, Jia Bharali and Kopili were flowing above the danger level at some places. Standing crop was still under water in 1.03 lakh hectares of land.

At Kaziranga National Park, 137 animals, including 14 rhinos, died till Tuesday morning due to various reasons including drowning and vehicle hits. The incidents of vehicle hits occurred on a national highway. Flood and river erosion have been Assam's perennial problems. Several organisations, including the All Assam Students' Union, had raised a demand in the past to declare these as "national problems".

National Disaster Response Force personnel rescue villagers from a flood-affected area in Assam's Dhubri district on Tuesday | PTI

Eight more blocks affected in Bihar

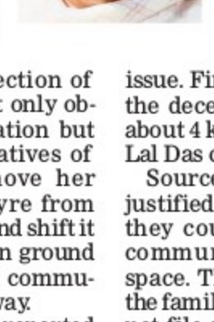
Patna: After heavy rain in the catchment areas in Nepal, the flood situation further aggravated with eight more blocks in Bihar's 11 districts inundated with flood water on Tuesday. The number of flood affected blocks rose from 97 on Monday to 101 on Tuesday. Over 29 lakh people are affected by flood. Though three more people were reported to have drowned in Saharsa district, officials confirmed only eight deaths. According to the disaster management department, 837 panchayats of 101 blocks are affected while 26.29 lakh people are displaced. Official sources said that the relief camps were increased from 21 to 26 with 808 community kitchens.

Mayawati seeks probe in Agra cremation row

NAMITA BAJPAI @Lucknow

BSP chief **Mayawati** has demanded investigation and strict action in a case in which the body of a woman belonging to the 'Nat' community was not allowed to be cremated by the upper caste Thakurs in an Agra village recently.

In a series of tweets, she said: "In Agra, the body of a Dalit woman was removed from the pyre by those with casteist mentality, which is most shameful and condemnable."



In another tweet, she said: "A high-level inquiry should be set up by the UP government and the culprits given the strictest punishment so that such incidents don't recur."

Sources said a section of the upper castes not only objected to the cremation but also forced the relatives of Pooja (26) to remove her corpse from the pyre from Kakrapura village and shift it to another cremation ground meant for the Dalit community, around 4 km away.

The incident was reported on July 19, but Pooja's relatives did not lodge a complaint, taking it as a routine affair.

Sources said in Kakrapura gram panchayat, there are 11 cremation grounds. As Dalits' land is encroached upon by another upper caste man of the same village, Pooja's relatives decided to cremate her body at the common ground.

"As Pooja's four-year-old son was about to light the pyre, the Thakurs rushed in and asked the assembled community members to take the body away to a ground allocated to Dalits," said a villager.

The episode led to a stand-off between the relatives of the deceased and the Thakurs. The intervention by *gram pradhan*, administration, local leaders and the police failed to resolve the issue. Finally, the relatives of the deceased took her body about 4 km away to the Nagla Lal Das cremation ground.

Sources said the Thakurs justified their action, saying they could not allow other communities to use their space. The police said since the family of the deceased did not file a complaint, no case was registered and the issue was settled.

DEOBAND

'No alternative to Eid sacrifice'

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

LEADING Islamic seminary Darul Uloom of Deoband has issued a *fatwa* saying that "there can't be an alternative for *qurbani*" even as opinions are divided over animal sacrifice on Eid-ul-Adha this year due to the ongoing Covid pandemic.

While Lucknow Eidgah Imam Maulana Khalid Rasheed Farangi Mahali offered the alternative in online *qurbani* which he said was not new, media in charge of the seminary Ashraf Usmani said the *fatwa* clarified the different views of people about '*qurbani*' during the pandemic.

Seminary's media cell, however, said that as per the fatwa, one '*ibadat* (prayer) can't be replaced by another *'ibadat'* as an alternative. "*Qurbani* has its significance and it can't be replaced with anything else," said the Fatwa.

According to the *fatwa*, some people were of the view that financial help could be provided to the poor instead of '*qurbani*' because, due to the ongoing pandemic, many people have lost their jobs. However, if someone wants to help the poor, they can do it with their available resources. The FATWA also exhorts people to follow the Covid guidelines while doing '*qurbani*'.

Vexed issue

In Maharashtra, NCP is in favour of some relaxation on Eid-ul-Adha. But CM Uddhav Thackeray is not in the mood due to the Covid situation

At the same time, people especially in western UP are unhappy over the curbs on sale of goats in the market. They claim the police were not allowing villagers to bring their goats to sell in the cities.

Goats to be sold for sacrifice for Eid ul-Adha in Prayagraj on Tuesday | PTI

Mumbai sero-survey reveals 57% corona prevalence in city's slums

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE serological surveillance for SARS-CoV2 in three wards of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation has found 57 per cent respondents in slums were exposed to the virus, as against 16 per cent in residential societies.

The survey was jointly commissioned by NITI-Aayog, the BMC and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research. It also revealed that prevalence among women was marginally higher than men. The age-wise prevalence in the populations was comparable in the three wards.

The survey indicated that asymptomatic infections are likely to be a high proportion of all infections. "The higher prevalence in slums could possibly be due to population density and shared common facilities. The infection fatality rate is likely to be very low (0.05-0.10%) and could be attributed to effective containment efforts and active measures to isolate symptomatic cases," said Daksha Shah, BMC health officer.

The survey shows low prevalence in non-slums areas due to better social distancing and access to better hygiene, in addition to interventions by BMC to stem the spread of infection.

Although it is still unclear what level of prevalence leads to herd immunity, the findings indicate that at least in slums, this could be attained sooner than later, if the immunity exists and persists in a significant proportion of the population.

In the first round, 6,936 samples (out of the estimated 8,870) from the general population were collected from three wards in slum and non-slum areas. Participants were recruited following informed voluntary consent.

EXPRESS READ

HC allows kin to meet Varavara Rao at hospital

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court permitted family members of poet Varavara Rao to meet him at a Mumbai hospital where he is undergoing treatment for Covid. It said the meeting would be subject to hospital protocols. Both the Maharashtra government and the NIA informed the court that they had no objection to Rao's family seeing him, or to them receiving health updates.

Corona-hit Chouhan washes clothes, says he is feeling better

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bhopal

THREE days after being hospitalized in Bhopal for turning Covid-19 positive, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan shared a video, in which he says he washes his clothes and prepares tea for himself.

Wearing a blue gown and face mask, the video shows the CM as saying: "Washing clothes has helped me a lot. I had a surgery on my hand in the past, but despite physiotherapy sessions, I was not able to clench my fist. But now I'm able to do so after washing clothes."

"I think we should do small tasks with our own hands," said Chouhan who later held a virtual cabinet meeting.

As per the medical bulletin released on Tuesday, his condition is stable on the fourth day of admission. "He has a mild cough, but no fever. He followed his morning yoga and exercise routine and continues to be in good spirits. His medical parameters are normal. He slept well and took a normal diet".

The 61-year-old four-time CM was hospitalized at the Chirayu Hospital in Bhopal on Saturday after testing positive for the coronavirus. His family members, including wife Sadhna Singh and sons Kartikey and Kunal, have tested negative.

According to the state health bulletin released on Monday evening, the state has so far reported 28,589 positive cases and 820 deaths.

MID-AIR JUICE

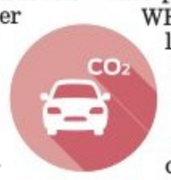
Mid-air refuelling of one of the five Rafale jets that are on their way to India. The refuelling was done by a French tanker at a height of 30,000 ft. The Rafales are scheduled to arrive at the Ambala IAF airbase on Wednesday afternoon | TWITTER

Air pollution can cut short life by 10 yrs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

IF you haven't taken air pollution seriously, it is time you did. A new report warns bad air can cut short average Indian life expectancy by as much as 5.2 years.

Those living in north Indian cities, where pollution levels are higher than other parts of the country, may see their life expectancy cut short by u 10 years.



Life expectancy in Uttar Pradesh is projected to drop by 8.6 years, while residents of Lucknow — the most polluted city according to the report — stand to lose 10.3 years. Lucknow's current pollution levels are 11 times more than WHO norms.

The national capital is close behind, with Delhi residents set to lose as much as 9.4 years.

According to the report released on Tuesday by the Energy Policy Institute at University of Chicago, India is the world's second most polluted country. It says 1.4 billion people live in areas where the annual average particulate pollution level exceeds WHO guidelines. Plus, 84% live in areas where it exceeds India's own air quality standards.

"Particulate pollution has sharply increased over time. Since 1998, average annual particulate pollution has increased 42 percent, cutting 1.8 years off the life of the average resident over those years. A quarter of India's population is exposed to pollution levels not seen in any other country, with 248 million residents of northern India on track to lose more than 8 years of life expectancy if pollution levels persist," says the report.

The Centre announced the National Clean Air Programme to reduce particulate pollution by 20-30% relative to 2017 levels by 2024. "Though NCAP goals are non-binding, if India does achieve this reduction, it would lead to remarkable health improvements: a nationwide reduction of 25%, the midpoint of the NCAP's target, would increase national life expectancy by 1.6 years, and by 3.1 years for Delhi residents," it adds.

"The Air Quality Life Index shows not only the damage but also the enormous gains that can be made with policies to address it (air pollution)," said Michael Greenstone, director, EPIC.

TNIE Impact: IOA to help *Divyang* cricketer

VINEET UPADHYAY @Dehradun

AFTER *TNIE* reported about ex-captain of Indian Wheelchair Cricket team **Rajendra Singh Dhami** working as a labourer, the Indian Olympic Association has come forward to support him.

Rajeev Mehta, IOA secretary, told *TNIE*, "We have announced immediate help of ₹50,000 today. His requirements will be taken care of. I have spoken to our state body in Uttarakhand. Every help and support will be provided to him."

District officials, too, have approached Dhami, who is captain of Uttarakhand Wheelchair Cricket Team.

"They said the Pithoragarh district magistrate wants to know what can be done for me. I will meet him soon," said Dhami. He is a resident of Rajkot village in Pithoragarh district and has resorted to breaking stones for road building under the MNREGA scheme.

"We have contacted Dhami and he is being provided help by the district sports officer. We are exploring options to provide him employment under Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojna or other schemes for his livelihood," said Vijay Jogdande, Pithoragarh District Magistrate.

However, till the time of writing this report, Dhami had not received any monetary help.

"After the story was published, I am receiving lots of calls. People are asking about my condition and have assured me help," said Dhami.

Dhami's family income is hardly ₹3,000 per month. He and his 65-year-old father have taken up menial work to take care of their family. Dhami qualified for the Provincial Services Exams (PCS) in 2012 for Uttarakhand. He has urged the state government to provide him a job as per his qualification. He holds a master's degree in History and is a B.Ed.

Home quarantine for asymptomatic patients

In view of the surge in Covid cases and deaths this month, J&K government has decided to advise asymptomatic patients to go for home quarantine. Chief Secretary B V R Subrahmanyam said it has been felt that hospitalization needs to be regulated so as to avoid unnecessary strain on the healthcare system. Hospital beds of tertiary hospitals needs to be available for severe cases, which may need intensive monitoring in a hospital setting. he CS said all asymptomatic patients with no co-morbidity will be allowed to remain under home quarantine, if they have a separate room facility at home and have downloaded AAROGYA Setu app on their phones.

SRINAGAR DIARY

FAYAZ WANI
Our correspondent
in Jammu and Kashmir
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Cyber Police cautions over 'AnyDesk' fraud

The Cyber cell has cautioned over "AnyDesk" application fraud and advised people to refrain from using the application. AnyDesk is a remote access desktop software tool, which provides a third party control of the user's device. People should refrain from using such apps or dialling fake helpline or customer care numbers found on Google search engine, the cell said. It said several cases of frauds were received regarding this app. The Cyber cell said a resident of Uri lost his entire savings after dialing an "airline call centre" for cancelling air. The helpline was found after doing a Google search. The man received a call and was told that the refund amount could be transferred immediately via Google Pay and for this he would have to download AnyDesk on his cell phone.

37 new Industrial Estates to come up

The J&K government has decided to establish 37 new industrial units in the Union Territory. The UT administration approved transfer of land to Industries and Commerce Department for establishing these estates at 37 identified locations in Jammu and Kashmir. The proposed projects are expected to boost the local economy, generate employment opportunities and bring overall development in the areas. But, RTI activist Raja Muzaffar criticised the decision to transfer over 9600 kanal land, saying it would prove disastrous as agriculture land holding was constantly decreasing.

Fumigation drive ahead of Eid

The Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) will conduct a two-day sterilisation drive across Srinagar ahead of Eid-ul-Azha. The SMC has put its men and machinery into ready mode to disinfect the city amid the surge in Covid infections in the Kashmir Valley. The Corporation is using Quaternary Ammonium Chloride, highly recommended by the World Health Organization, for disinfection. The SMC has already installed disinfection tunnels at many public places including the entry of hospitals. Of the 18,390 Covid cases and 321 deaths in J&K, Srinagar accounts for 4,133 cases and 94 deaths.

$66 bn

3 groups of creditors have reiterated their rejection of Argentina's restructure plan for a $66 bn debt

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	32	22	LC	Los Angeles	26	15	SNY
Colombo	29	25	TDS	Melbourne	15	8	LC
Doha	43	22	SNY	Moscow	27	18	TDS
Dubai	30	31	SNY	New York	33	23	SNY
Houston	31	23	LC	Singapore	29	24	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	26	17	LC
London	23	13	LC	Washington DC	35	24	LC

Trump sets stage for more protests as cities push back

Mayors of 6 major cities want to block feds, but Trump is reportedly sending more, potentially worsening unrest, with eye on Nov election

Barr condemns Floyd riots at House hearing

Attorney General William Barr defended the aggressive federal law enforcement response to civil unrest in America, saying on Tuesday "violent rioters and anarchists have hijacked legitimate protests" sparked by George Floyd's death at the hands of Minneapolis police. Barr told members of the House Judiciary Committee at a much-anticipated election year hearing the violence taking place in Portland, Oregon, and other cities is disconnected from Floyd's killing, which he called a "horrible" event that prompted a necessary national reckoning on the relationship between the Black community and law enforcement.

Trump again pushes for HCQ treatment

President Donald Trump's attempt to project a more serious tone about the coronavirus lasted for about a week. On Tuesday, he resumed spreading misinformation about how to fight the virus and amplifying criticism of Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, who said he'd keep his head down and do his job. Social media platforms worked to remove multiple versions of a video promoted by Trump that included unproven claims about treating people who test positive for the virus, but only after more than 17 million people had seen one version of it. Trump retweeted a series of tweets advocating for hydroxychloroquine.

Federal officers deploy tear gas and crowd-control munitions against demonstrators during a Black Lives Matter protest in Portland, Oregon, on Tuesday | AP

WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump is sending more federal agents to the city of Portland, where images of over-handed policing, have sparked increasingly violent protests across the US, the *Washington Post* reported.

The US Marshals Service, the Department of Homeland Security are planning to send more personnel to the city, the *Post* reported on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, the mayors of Portland, Oregon, and five other major US cities appealed Monday to Congress to make it illegal for the federal government to deploy militarized agents to cities that don't want their presence.

"This administration's egregious use of federal force on cities over the objections of local authorities should never happen," the mayors of Portland; Seattle; Chicago; Kansas City; Albuquerque, New Mexico; and Washington wrote to leaders of House and Senate.

Video from Tuesday showed law enforcement officers in Portland filling a street with tear gas to disperse protesters and loud booms were heard.

The *Post* said, citing internal Marshals emails, that at least reinforcements for the federal forces could arrive in the city, which had 114 federal agents in mid-July.

Campaign strategy

Trump has been positioning himself as a "law and order" candidate and images of federal agents fighting protesters on the streets may aid him in the November elections.

The city has had nightly protests for two months since the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May. Trump said he sent the federal agents to Portland to halt the unrest, but state and local officials said they are making the situation worse.

Trump's deployment of the federal officers over the July 4 weekend stoked the Black Lives Matter movement. The number of nightly protesters had dwindled to perhaps less than 100 right before the deployment but has now has swelled to the thousands. Trump said federal properties in Portland "wouldn't last a day" without the presence of the federal agents. *Agencies*

10 LAKH CASES

Africa nears milestone in Covid, worse yet to come

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICA is now edging towards a million cases of coronavirus, but experts warn far worse lies ahead in a continent struggling with fragile health systems and slender economic resources.

Countries across Africa have recorded more than 850,000 infections and at least 18,000 deaths, according to an AFP tally as of Tuesday.

The toll took a while to move into higher gear thanks to early restrictions on contact and movement, Dr Mary Stephens, an expert at the World Health Organization (WHO) Africa office, told AFP.

"We haven't seen the peak yet," she warned. "All countries in Africa are at risk because our health systems are relatively weak."

S Africa

The continent's most industrialised economy has notched up more than 450,000 infections -- the highest number in Africa and the fifth biggest in the world.

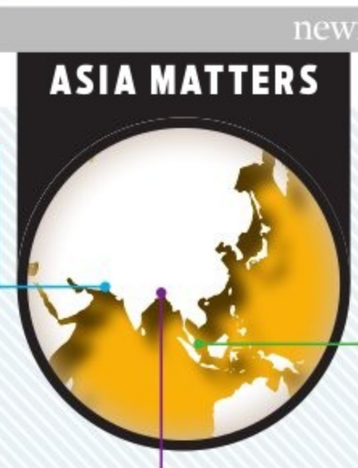
It has recorded more than 7,000 deaths, although there is concern that fatalities are being under-reported. "The peak will come in July, August and September," Health Minister Zweli Mkhize predicted on Sunday.

Nigeria

Africa's most populous nation has registered 41,000 cases, the second highest tally south of the Sahara, with numbers rising by between 500-700 each day.

About 3,000 tests are carried per day on average in a country of 200 million people -- just a tenth of the number conducted in South Africa which has a quarter of the population. *AFP*

ASIA MATTERS



PAKISTAN

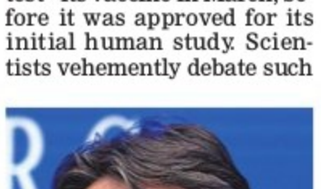
5 commandos killed

A raid on a suspected militant hideout in northwestern Pakistan early on Tuesday morning killed five anti-terrorism commandos and two militants, the police said. According to police spokesman Imtiaz Khan, a blistering firefight erupted when the commandos tried to raid a house in the Chilas district, 460 km north of Peshawar, the capital of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province which borders Afghanistan. The fighting lasted several hours, Khan said. Along with the two militants killed, a cache of weapons and explosives was recovered, he added. It wasn't immediately known which militant group was involved in the firefight. The Pakistani Taliban — the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan or TTP — are active in the province. Pakistan alleges that militants from the outlawed TTP have found safe havens in Afghanistan.

BANGLADESH

Coronavirus infection rate declining, say authorities

The Covid-19 infection rate is dropping in Bangladesh, the Director General of Health Services' Prof Nasima Sultana was quoted as saying by the *Dhaka Tribune*. "Bangladesh is in a decreasing stage," she said.



SINGAPORE

I hope companies stay in Hong Kong, says PM Lee

Singapore's prime minister said he was not looking to woo businesses out of Hong Kong, as it was more important to preserve calm after China's security law. "We think it's better for Hong Kong and better for the region -- and Singapore -- if Hong Kong is stable and calm and prosperous," PM Lee Hsien Loong said. "On balance, I would say I much prefer Hong Kong doing well than to have people looking for places to go out of Hong Kong," he told a virtual event of the Atlantic Council in Washington. Singapore and Hong Kong are two of the major hubs in Asia for international firms, which are drawn to the prosperous cities' investor-friendly policies. Lee said the two cities had a "friendly competition" but not a "very serious rivalry," pointing to advantages enjoyed by each metropolis including Hong Kong's position as a gateway to China.

China CDC chief gets vaccine shot to dispel doubts

BEIJING

US President The head of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention says he has been injected with an experimental coronavirus vaccine in an attempt to persuade the public to follow suit when one is approved.

"I'm going to reveal something undercover: I am injected with one of the vaccines," Gao Fu said in a webinar Sunday hosted by Alibaba Health, an arm of the Chinese e-commerce giant, and Cell Press, an American publisher of scientific journals. "I hope it will work."

The Associated Press reported earlier this month that a state-owned Chinese company injected employees with experimental shots in March, even before the government-approved testing in people — a move that raised ethical concerns among some experts.

Gao did not say when or how he took the vaccine candidate, leaving it unclear whether he was injected as part of a government-approved human trial. He did not respond to requests for comment.

The claim underscores the enormous stakes as China competes with US and British companies to be the first with a vaccine to help end the pandemic — a feat that would be both a scientific and political triumph.

China has positioned itself to be a strong contender. Eight of the nearly two dozen potential vaccines in various stages of human testing worldwide are from China, the most of any country.

Gao declined to say which of the vaccines he was injected with, saying he didn't want to be seen as "doing some kind of propaganda" for a particular company.

Last month, Gao was a co-author on a paper introducing one candidate, an "inactivated" vaccine made by growing the whole virus in a lab and then killing it. That candidate is being developed by an affiliate of state-owned SinoPharm. The company previously said in an online post that 30 employees, including top executives, helped "pretest" its vaccine in March, before it was approved for its initial human study. Scientists vehemently debate such

Gao Fu, head of Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention | AP

self-experimentation, because what happens to one or a few people outside a well-designed study is not usable evidence of safety or effectiveness.

Chinese state media have also reported that employees of state-owned companies going abroad are being offered injections of the vaccine.

Gao said he took the injection to instill public confidence in vaccines, especially amid a tide of rising mistrust that has fueled conspiracy theories and attacks on scientists. "Everybody has suspicions about the new coronavirus vaccine," Gao said. *AP*

Malaysia's ex-PM Najib Razak | AFP

Najib Razak sentenced to 12 years over 1MDB looting

KUALA LUMPUR

FORMER Malaysian leader Najib Razak was sentenced Tuesday to 12 years in jail on corruption charges linked to the multi-billion-dollar 1MDB scandal that led to the downfall of his government two years ago.

The ex-prime minister was also fined almost $50 million after being convicted on all seven charges in the first of several trials related to the looting of the 1Malaysia Development Berhad sovereign wealth fund.

The 67-year-old is challenging the verdict and will be allowed to remain free on continued bail until a lengthy appeals process is complete.

Billions of dollars were stolen from Malaysia's main state investment vehicle and spent on everything from high-end real estate to pricey art. Goldman Sachs also became embroiled in the scandal and faces a series of hefty fines in both the US and Malaysia as a result.

Anger at the looting played a large part in the shock loss of Najib's long-ruling coalition at elections in 2018, and he was arrested and hit with dozens of charges following his defeat. The verdict was welcomed as a boost for Malaysia's rule of law and came despite Najib's political allies returning to power. *AFP*

Covid linked to 10,000 child deaths each month

Virus-linked hunger is leading to the deaths of 10,000 more children a month over the first year of the pandemic, according to an urgent call to action from the United Nations published in the Lancet medical journal

5.5 lakh

additional children each month are being struck by what is called wasting, according to the U.N. — malnutrition that manifests in spindly limbs and distended bellies

ACROSS THE WORLD

From Latin America to South Asia to sub-Saharan Africa, more families than ever are staring down a future without enough food. The analysis published Monday found about 128,000 more young children will die over the first 12 months of the virus

REVERSING GLOBAL PROGRESS

The rise in child deaths worldwide would reverse global progress for the first time in decades

53 mn Deaths of children younger than 5 had declined steadily since 1980, to 5.3 million around the world in 2018, according to a UNICEF report

45% of the deaths were attributed to undernutrition

AFGHANISTAN A RED ZONE

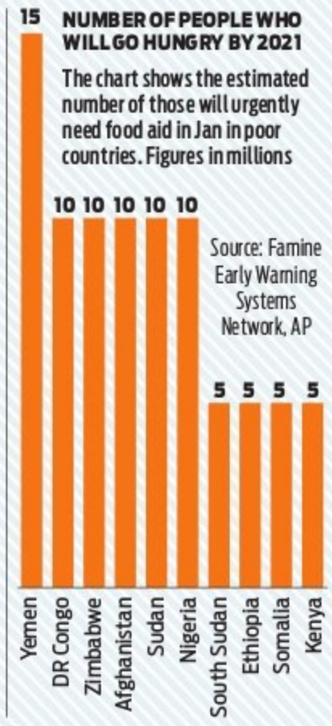
- Afghanistan is now in a red zone of hunger, with severe childhood malnutrition spiking from 690,000 in January to 780,000 — a 13% increase
- Food prices have risen by more than 15%, and a recent study by Johns Hopkins University indicated an additional 13,000 Afghans younger than 5 could die.

40%

Afghan children are already stunted. Stunting happens when families live on a cheap diet of grains or potatoes, with supply chains in disarray and money scarce

NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WILL GO HUNGRY BY 2021

The chart shows the estimated number of those will urgently need food aid in Jan in poor countries. Figures in millions



Source: Famine Early Warning Systems Network, AP

Vit A Vitamin A supplements to children have been suspended almost entirely. They are a crucial way to bolster developing immune systems

TEXT: AP

LITERARY AWARD

Avni Doshi's debut novel on the 2020 Booker Prize longlist

LONDON

EIGHT debut novelists came up against veterans Hilary Mantel and Tsitsi Dangarembga when Britain unveiled a US-dominated longlist of finalists Tuesday for its revered Booker Prize.

Dubai-based Indian-origin author Avni Doshi is among the 13 authors longlisted.

One of the world's most celebrated literary competitions tore up the rule book last year by splitting the fiction award between Canada's Margaret Atwood and Anglo-Nigerian author Bernardine Evaristo.

It courted controversy on this occasion by pitting nine Americans or dual-US citizens against just three Britons and Zimbabwe's Dangarembga.

"There are voices from minorities often unheard, stories that are fresh, bold and absorbing," judges' panel chair Margaret Busby said.

(L-R) Hilary Mantel, author of *The Mirror & the Light*; C Pam Zhang, author of *How Much of These Hills Is Gold*; and Tsitsi Dangarembga, author of *This Mournable Body*

"Unplanned, our final selection encompasses both seasoned favourites and debut talents -- a truly satisfying outcome."

The title of best work of English-language fiction published in the United Kingdom and Ireland has launched careers and caused countless arguments since its creation in 1969.

Past laureates have ranged from contemporary giants such as Ian McEwan and Julian Barnes to Kazuo Ishiguro and Roddy Doyle.

Year of seismic change

This year's 13-title longlist -- to be whittled down to a shortlist of six on September 15 before the winner is unveiled in November -- features nine female authors.

"In this year of seismic change, visibility for new books published in the UK has been drastically low," the Booker Prize Foundation's literary director Gaby Wood said.

"So, however unintended the ratio, it's especially heartening to know that some authors who have launched their careers in the midst of Covid-19 may now have a chance to reach the readers they deserve."

The five-judge panel picked through 162 novels either published or scheduled for release in the 12 months ending on September 30.

Britain was represented by Mantel -- nominated for "The Mirror & The Light" -- and debutants Sophie Ward and Gabriel Krauze. Mantel won the Booker in 2009 for "Wolf Hall" and in 2012 for "Bring Up the Bodies". *Agencies*

AN ODE TO MOMMY FROM HELL

Avni Doshi's *Girl in White Cotton* is a delicate, yet powerfully rendered sketch of a dysfunctional mother-daughter relationship and an evocative read... Tara [the mother] tends to come across as something of a mommy from hell

From TNIE's review of the book in Nov 2019

AVNI DOSHI

Born in 1982 in New Jersey, now based in Dubai. She was a curator and art critic

EXPRESS READ

Ad that made Dem's nose bigger removed

Atlanta: Republican Senator David Perdue of Georgia has taken down a Facebook ad featuring a manipulated picture of his Democratic rival Jon Ossoff (R), who is Jewish, with an enlarged nose. The ad showed Ossoff and Senator Charles Schumer (L), also a Jew, above a banner reading "DEMOCRATS ARE TRYING TO BUY GEORGIA! HELP DAVID PERDUE FIGHT BACK." Ossoff said, "This is the oldest, most obvious, least original anti-Semitic trope in history."

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
558.22 ▲	Sensex	38,492.95	₹82 ▲	24 carat (1 gm)	₹5,246.5	₹1,970 ▼	Per kg	₹62,730	▲ Dollar		74.84
168.75 ▲	Nifty	11,300.55	₹80 ▲	22 carat (1 gm)	₹5,225.5	₹1.97 ▼	Per gm	₹62.7	▲ Euro		87.52

Bharti Airtel gears up for 5G network trials

Chairman Sunil Mittal says government needs to rationalise levies and close long-standing legal disputes in telecom

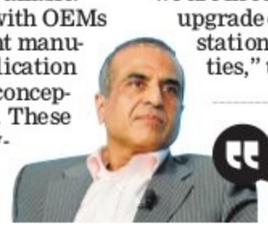
ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

BHARTI Airtel, among the three private telecom operators in India, is gearing up for the 5G race. The company, which released its annual report for financial year 2019-20 (FY20) on Tuesday, said that it is now working with other original equipment manufacturers (OEM) and application development on "conceptualising" trials of 5G technology.

According to the telecom service provider, preparations for such trials are "in full swing" in order to ensure effective execution as soon as the spectrum becomes available.

The note in the telco's annual report comes just a few weeks after rival Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Jio had announced that it was ready with an end-to-end 5G network solution that may be ready for a launch within a year's time if the airwaves are available.

"In association with OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) and application developers, we are conceptualising 5G trials. These trials help to showcase our 5G capability through various enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB) and industrial use cases and applications," Airtel said in the report, adding that rising demand for high-speed data has escalated the need for 5G services in one of the world's largest telecom markets. "To be a future ready enterprise, we are in continuous pursuit to upgrade our existing 4G base stations with 5G capabilities," the company said.



The government must also look at rationalising the levies on the sector and close long standing legal disputes that are a big drag on performance of operators.

Sunil Mittal, chairman, Bharti Airtel

The Department of Telecom (DoT) is in the process of finalising the systems for the allotment of 5G airwaves for trial use. However, with anti-China sentiments on the rise and government policy on Chinese equipment vendors like Huawei and ZTE still not clear, the DoT has not yet made any move to extend 5G airwaves to telcos for the purpose of trials. The government has also not put up 5G airwaves for auction yet.

On Tuesday, Airtel chairman Sunil Mittal said in a note to shareholders that the sector remained in trouble and required more support. "The government must also look at rationalising the levies on the sector and close long standing legal disputes that are a big drag on performance of operators. These urgent interventions will ensure that we have a viable industry with 3+1 structure," he said. Mittal also pointed out that while he hoped a new Covid-19 vaccine will come soon, the world would have to "adjust to the new normal".

Protect rights of foreign ventures: China to India

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

A day after it was reported that India has banned another set of Chinese apps, the Chinese Embassy in India sharply criticised the move and said that the Indian government has the responsibility to protect the legitimate rights and interests of international investors in India, including Chinese businesses.

"The Indian government has the responsibility to protect the legitimate rights and interests of international investors in India, including Chinese businesses, in accordance with market principles. Practical cooperation between China and India is mutually beneficial. Deliberate interference in such cooperation will not serve the interests of the Indian side," the spokesperson of the Chinese Embassy in India, Counselor Ji Rong, said on Tuesday.

Rong added that China will take necessary measures to safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of Chinese companies.

India's move to ban another set of apps comes barely a month after banning the first ban on 59 mobile applications. Most of the new apps banned are virtual clones of the apps banned in June.

While the government did not immediately release the names of the 47 apps, sources said the more recent list includes Tiktok Lite, Helo Lite, SHAREit Lite and BIGO LIVE Lite.

According to sources, India is closely monitoring another 250 plus Chinese apps over user privacy and national security violations. The popular Tencent-backed gaming app PUBG and apps linked to one of China's biggest firms Alibaba fall in this list.

Experts say that India would continue to put pressure on Chinese companies where it sees an easy replacement and no major impact on its domestic industry.

"Chinese apps can be easily replaced with homegrown apps. This does not impact India in a big way, but it is a big deal for China. It would be interesting to see what sort of action China takes. While China has very few options to hurt Indian companies in their territory, it certainly can hurt India if it decides to limit/restrict exports. It will severely hurt their companies' earnings but can cause serious implications on India's economy," said a senior analyst requesting anonymity.

SECOND APP BAN

- A total of 47 apps have been banned by India in the second tranche
- The list includes Tiktok Lite, Helo Lite, SHAREit Lite and BIGO LIVE Lite

Competition heats up in hyperlocal segment with Flipkart Quick

BISMAH MALIK @ Bengaluru

E-COMMERCE major Flipkart has re-started its hyperlocal delivery services after a four year hiatus, announcing on Tuesday that it will begin now delivering a range of products such as groceries, fresh goods, dairy, meat, mobiles, electronic accessories, stationery and home accessories within 90 minutes.

The new initiative, called Flipkart Quick, will deliver more than 2,000 products in select pincodes of Bengaluru for now, but will be expanded to six other cities over the next few months.

In 2015, Flipkart had announced a similar hyperlocal delivery service under which orders were delivered to customers within 60 minutes. However, it was discontinued after a while.

Now, with the re-launch, Flipkart will face stiff competition from Google-backed Dunzo, which operates across eight Indian cities and is currently serving 10 lakh orders a month.

According to the company, Flipkart Quick aims to leverage the massive reach of India's mom and pop stores , combining it technology. Rival e-tailer Amazon's Pantry service and Amazon Fresh also deliver orders within two hours. However, the company hasn't tied-up with local neighbourhood stores yet. During the Coronavirus pandemic, local kirana stores have easily managed to edge out e-commerce firms in terms of supplying essentials in their vicinity.

Hyperlocal capabilities can be described simply as building connections between locally available products and consumers in a particular area.

Sandeep Karwa, VP, Flipkart

"Hyperlocal capabilities can be described simply as building connections between locally available products and consumers in a particular area. This is a great model for India as households of all sizes are already used to their neighbourhood Kirana stores... with Flipkart Quick, we have the potential to bring together the whole network of neighbourhood Kirana stores onto our platform with just a click," Sandeep Karwa, Vice-President, Flipkart, said.

The e-commerce firm added that it will move away from the conventional pin-code system to track the location of the delivery order and instead adopt a latitude-longitude approach that will result in sharper delivery time.

TODAY'S STOCK PICK

HCL TECH

Current Price ₹712.9

Target Price ₹765

HCLT's exposure to deeply troubled verticals is lower v/s peers. Additionally, higher exposure to IMS, comprising a larger share of nondiscretionary spend, offers better resilience to its portfolio in the current context. Besides this, the company has higher exposure to Financial Services, Tech Services, and Manufacturing, wherein we anticipate an uptick in IT spends.

— Motilal Oswal Securities Limited

Disclaimer: The views and recommendations made above are that of the individual analyst or broking company, and not that of *The New Indian Express*.

Despite Centre's push, adequate start-up funding remains a challenge

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

DESPITE the central government's strong push to support start-ups, India's fledgling firms are still facing significant trouble with regards to access to funding, with industry representatives stating that banks have been reluctant to extend funding to small firms.

According to sources in the Union Ministry of Finance, a group of representatives from various start-ups have approached the ministry and flagged concerns that the sector has with inadequate access to funding.

"We received a representation from start-ups regarding obstacles in getting funding from banks. The maximum complaints were against private banks. We are looking into it, " a senior official from the finance ministry said.

COVID-19 STRESS

12% of start-ups have shut due to Covid-19

443 start-ups funded between Jan-Jun

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has said that Covid-19 has hit start-up funding

During the lockdown, many startups have shut down while many others are using their savings and cash balances to navigate through this crisis.

According to a survey jointly conducted by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the Indian Angel Network (IAN) earlier this month, the ongoing Covid-19 crisis has deeply impacted the Indian start-up ecosystem, with close to 12 per cent of start-ups shutting shop.

According to the 'India Tech Semi-Annual Factsheet', compiled by Tracxn, only 443 companies were funded in the January-June period this year against 725 companies in the first half of 2019. Many such as Oyo, BookMyShow, Zomato, Swiggy, Ola, Uber, Livspace have also resorted to pay cuts and layoffs.

Even RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das acknowledged that Covid-19 has impacted funding for start-ups as investors have become risk-averse and the central bank chief has called upon the government to reorient policy focus in this area.

NEW LEASE

SK Gupta gets extension as CBDT member

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the re-appointment of Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer S K Gupta as a member of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT). "The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved re-appointment of Satish Kumar Gupta, IRS as Member, Central Board of Direct Taxes upon his superannuation on July 31, 2020 for a period of one year with effect from August 1, 2020, or until further orders, whichever is earlier," a government notification said on Tuesday.

An 1984 batch IRS officer, S K Gupta is said to be a strong contender for the post for CBDT chairman after the retirement of incumbent PC Mody on August 31.

PC Mody was earlier set to retire on August 31, 2019, but was given a one year extension. Sources in the finance ministry claim he is unlikely to get another extension and, then, the senior-most member with a minimum tenure of six months would be appointed as the chairman. This extension for Gupta will clear deck for his appointment.

India's fintech revolution not yet fully accessible to the country's poor: Report

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE digital revolution in India has changed the nature of the financial services sector. The fintech era, which began sometime during 2010, has seen an explosive growth in the past five years with more than 80 per cent of the enterprises having been founded during that period. India has second largest fintech ecosystem in the world now, after the US, according to the recently released India Fintech report.

However, the report released by Nandan Nilekani raises some concerns on how widespread the benefits of this revolution have been.

"So far, we do not see the impact of FinTech in India 3 except for a few companies like Kaleidofin, Ekofinancial services, Jai Kisan, GramCover, PayNearby and Aye Finance. Most startups do not operate in that segment. While we have made significant progress in formalization with digital ID and the ability to transact (access) with the ID and payment rails, we must bring the costs down using technology and create incentives (and financial education) for India 3 to use digital money and FinTech," the report noted.

The report notes, howeverm that UPI has unarguably pushed the country faster towards digital payments adoption. According to a report released by the Payments Council of India (PCI) and PriceWater House Coopers (PWC) at the Global Fintech Fest, UPI has now reached 1 billion transactions every month, growing at a Compounded Annual Growth rate (CAGR) of 785 per cent in volume and 570 per cent in terms of value from financial year 2016-17 (FY17) to FY20.

UPI transactions are expected to reach nearly 59 billion in volume by 2023 owing to its high (Peer- to- Peer) P2P type of transaction penetration, the report added. The pandemic has only accelerated the trend.

EXPRESS READ

Nestle India Apr-Jun net profit up 11% to ₹486.60 crore

New Delhi: FMCG major Nestle India Ltd on Tuesday reported a 11.14 per cent increase in net profit at ₹486.60 crore for the quarter ended June 2020, helped by increase in sales. The company, which follows January-December financial year, had posted a profit of ₹437.79 crore in the same quarter a year ago, Nestle India said. Its net sales rose 1.96 per cent to ₹3,041.45 crore during the quarter under review from ₹2,982.83 crore in the corresponding period of last fiscal. Exports declined 9.32 per cent to ₹133.71 crore.

IDFC First Bank records a net profit of ₹94 crore in first quarter

New Delhi: IDFC First Bank on Tuesday reported a net profit of ₹94 crore in the first quarter ended June of the current fiscal year. The Mumbai-headquartered private sector lender had posted a net loss of ₹617 crore in the corresponding June quarter of previous fiscal year. The bank's total income grew 42 per cent to ₹2,111 crore during April-June period of 2020-21 as compared with ₹1,485 crore in the same period of 2019-20, IDFC First Bank said in a release. This stressed pool stood at ₹3,195 crore as of June 30, 2020.

PROBE

ED conducts raids on GVK properties

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

AFTER registering an FIR against the promoters of the GVK Group, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday conducted searches at several locations spreading across nine of the group's premises in Hyderabad, Bangalore, Mumbai and other locations.

The raids were conducted in connection to the ongoing money laundering probe and the sources in the ED said that the offices of the GVK group, MIAL, the premises of GVK group promoters and some entry operators are being covered as part of the action.

The ED had registered a case against the Hyderabad-based infrastructure company on the basis of an FIR by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for allegedly siphoning off ₹705 crore which was meant for the development of Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL).

"This is a follow up of the existing case. This is regarding their subsidiaries and some of their overseas investment. At this point we can not reveal anything further," a senior official from the ED said.

DIVERSIFICATION

Covid blow to tourism pushes Yatra.com to greener pastures

ARSAHD KHAN @ New Delhi

ONLINE travel services company Yatra.com is beginning to increase its focus on non-travel B2B offerings since its core business has remained impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, with no quick signs of recovery in the near future.

Dhruv Shringi, co-founder and CEO of Yatra, said on Tuesday that there was a big opportunity in rethinking certain paths of their business. The idea, he said, was to transform the firm from a travel services company into a business services platform on the corporate side.

"In the last 3-4 months, it has emerged that large organisations want to digitise their supply chains for goods and services... Keeping that in mind, we are building an integrated business services platform for corporates with the idea of streamlining the procurement process and helping companies plug leakages with better automation and compliance using tech," said Shringi.

He added that the company is well capitalized with over $48 million in their balance sheet and slow burn rate of about $1.2 million a month, which gives them an adequate amount of capital and time to see this through.

The company said that it would also launch services such as expense management software, where soon it would be adding a corporate purchase card. It has also partnered with Ronnie Screwvala's Edtech platform upGrad to deliver advanced learning and skill development programs for corporates and their employees.

We are building an integrated business services platform for corporates with the idea of streamlining the procurement process and helping companies plug leakages with better automation.

Dhruv Shringi, co-founder and CEO, Yatra

Other newly launched services from the Yatra.com fold include artificial intelligence-based smart space and safe space solutions and an online platform for consumable sourcing for hotel partners. It is also partnering with a nanotech platform called Neodot for body temperature checks.

One of the main reasons for the new ventures are its strong presence in the corporate sector. Yatra at present serves over 850 corporates and over 20,000 SMEs for corporate travel.

Muse Wearables' Covid-19 tracker attracts interest

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Chennai

MUSE Wearables, an IIT Madras incubated start-up, is developing a wearable wrist tracker that will measure body vitals and help in the early detection of Covid-19 symptoms. According to the firm, it is planning to launch the product in August and has received a fresh funding of ₹22 crore which has given a boost to its ambitions.

This round of funding has come from both existing and new investors led by Bhaskar Rao Bollineni, Managing Director of Kims hospitals. The wristband tracker is equipped with sensors to track skin temperature, heart rate and SpO2 (Blood Oxygen saturation). The device can continuously track these body vitals remotely and will help in early diagnosis of Covid-19 symptoms. The tracker is Bluetooth-enabled and can be connected to the mobile phone via an app called the Muse Health App. The user data is stored in the phone as well as remotely.

Real's Mariano tests positive for virus

Real Madrid forward Mariano Diaz has tested positive for the coronavirus. The announcement came as the team returned to practice ahead of its Champions League match against Manchester City on August 7. Real Madrid lost at home 2-1 in the first leg of the Round of 16 series. The entire Madrid squad was tested for Covid-19 on Monday.

Arokia back to homework with Tokyo in mind

Training alone in Lalgudi, 400m specialist waiting for events to assess track fitness

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@Chennai

EVEN as most of India's leading athletes are training at the SAI campus in Patiala, Arokia Rajiv is training by himself in Lalgudi, a small town near Tiruchirapalli in Tamil Nadu. The 400m specialist had to dash back to his hometown because of a family emergency.

"After taking permission from the Athletics Federation of India (AFI), I returned

home. I was in home quarantine for 14 days before beginning my training at the government school nearby," the athlete told this daily.

The 2014 Asian Games 400m bronze medallist was bothered by a toe injury last year, which it kept him out of the World Championships in Doha. The 29-year-old said those problems are behind him. "Yes, I'm completely healed now," he said. "How can I run in 20.7 seconds over 200m in training if I'm not fit?" That is just 0.04 seconds slower than his fastest competitive time across the distance (20.66 at an event in Czech Republic in 2018).

This will come as good news to AFI officials, who have been touting the 4x400m contingent as potential medal winners. That belief was boosted as the silver the team secured in the 4x400m mixed at the 2018 Asian Games was bumped up to gold after Bahrain was disqualified following a dope-related ban for one of their runners. Rajiv was part of that team and he hopes to use it as a platform to plan an assault on the Tokyo Games next year. "It will definitely motivate us to perform better," he said.

One thing that may count against Rajiv & Co is the lack of competitive sharpness. Rajiv himself hasn't taken part in a competition since April 2019. To compound matters, Hima Das, who also featured in the 4x400m mixed final in Jakarta in 2018, hasn't run since August.

And because of the situation surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, it's likely that the racers won't be able to gain invaluable competition time in the next few months. AFI has slated September (first Indian Grand Prix is scheduled for September 12 in Patiala) for resumption of events but Rajiv is doubtful. "I don't see how competitions can begin before November or December," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Anand finally wins in Legends tournament

CHENNAI: Viswanathan Anand finally won at the Legends of Chess online tournament after six straight losses. The Indian beat Boris Gelfand of Israel 2.5-0.5 in the seventh round. He lies in the eighth spot now.

IOA forms 11-member CWG association

NEW DELHI: The Indian Olympic Association constituted an 11-member Commonwealth Games Association of India under its president Narinder Batra for the 2020-21 season.

Cost cut high on franchises' agenda

VENKATA KRISHNA B @Chennai

EVEN though they are yet to hear officially from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the IPL franchises have begun the groundwork with regards to finding a safe base in the Untied Arab Emirates for the tournament to be played from September 19 to November 8. Indications from the franchises are that all the teams will touch base in the Gulf by mid-August.

With the BCCI yet to send its standard operating procedures (SOP), franchises have not been able to finalise plans. The situation caused by the pandemic has forced them to be flexible in certain aspects. Most of them are looking to cut expenses as securing a safe environment for the players has taken centrestage.

Most franchises that this daily spoke to indicated that since promotional activities will be non-existent, they can use the sum reserved for it to improve other areas. Some franchises are looking for a new set of sponsors after those who signed in February pulled out citing financial constraints.

With regards to hotels, it is understood that chances of creating a bio-secure space, the teams will be asked to stay in different hotels. With UAE opening up business, franchises are aware that they can't take an entire hotel on rent. So they are planning to hire a couple of floors with zero access to the outside world.

While commercial flights from India to UAE still not operational, franchises have started looking at chartered flights. Some franchises are planning to send teams in two batches, while some are planning to send everyone together. It is learnt that at least a few of franchises are planning to ask a private carrier to hire an Airbus 320 so that they can fly the players out in one go.

In Broad perspective

Stuart Broad became the seventh bowler in history to claim 500 wickets in Test cricket. Here's a look at the bowler and his achievement...

Broad has been more effective in home conditions, where he has 321 wickets in 79 Tests at 25.91 and a strike rate of 50.3.

Born: June 24, 1986
Tests: 140
Wickets: 501
Best: 8/15 vs Aus, Trent Bridge, 2015
5-wkt hauls: 18
Average: 27.94
Strike rate: 56.7

4 Broad is the fourth fast bowler to reach the landmark of 500 wickets, after Anderson (589), McGrath (563) and Walsh (519)

3 The top three wicket-takers in Test cricket are spinners — Muthiah Muralitharan (800), Shane Warne (708) and Anil Kumble (619)

1 Broad and Anderson form the only new-ball pair where both bowlers have taken 500-plus wickets

4 Broad is one of the four bowlers with two Test hat-tricks, after Hugh Trumble (Aus), TJ Matthews (Aus), Wasim Akram (Pak). His hat-tricks came against India & Sri Lanka

500 West Indies opener Kraigg Brathwaite was the 500th victim for both Anderson and Broad

ENGLAND WIN SERIES

Manchester: England won the first cricket series in four months, defeating the West Indies in the third Test by 269 runs on the last day at Old Trafford. England snatched the series 2-1 after losing the first Test. Needing to bat out the last day, the visitors lasted just 31 overs. Stuart Broad shared the Man of the Series prize with Roston Chase of West Indies, despite missing the first Test.

Brief scores: England 369 & 226/2 ded bt West Indies 197 & 129 (Woakes 5/50, Broad 4/36).

Delhi HC to hear EFI appeal on Sept 24

FIROZ MIRZA @Chennai

THE Delhi High Court on Monday accepted an application filed by the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) in response to an order issued by it on July 20.

In that order, the court restrained Lt General SS Mishra and Lt General MKS Yadav from acting as president and vice-president of the federation till the next hearing.

The court, however, did not vacate the order or allow the body to hold its annual general meeting to conduct elections, as requested by EFI, thus maintaining status quo. The application will be heard on September 24.

"The court accepted our application for hearing. It did not vacate the order as we requested but looked satisfied with the procedures we followed in appointing the president and vice-president on an interim basis," an EFI source told this daily.

The court last week restrained Lt General SS Mishra and Lt General MKS Yadav from acting as president and vice-president of EFI after hearing an application from Rajasthan Equestrian Association. The state unit accused the parent body of violating the National Sports Development Code by reserving key posts for the Indian Army officers.

AITA makes changes in constitution

PTI @New Delhi

IN major constitutional amendments, national tennis federation AITA has done away with the weighted voting method apart from abolishing the 'life president' and 'life vice-president' posts to become National Sports Development Code compliant. The AITA has also reduced the number of join secretaries to four from two.

AITA approved the changes at its Special General Body meeting held virtually on Monday. "We've to follow the government guidelines and the sports code. We used to follow the International Tennis Federation's (ITF) method of voting because they are the parent body but the government wants to bring uniformity and we are fine with that," AITA secretary general Hironmoy Chatterjee said.

Princepal signs for G League Select team

BENGALURU: The G League Select team has signed India hoopster Princepal Singh, it was announced on Tuesday. The developmental team, which is affiliated with the NBA G League, however, will not be participating in the league. The team comprises elite youth prospects from around the world. The six feet ten inch forward is the first NBA Academy India graduate to sign a professional contract. He joined the NBA Academy India in 2017. In November 2018, Singh transitioned to the NBA Global Academy too.

Government of Karnataka
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi. (PIU)
Website: **https://www.kpwd.gov.in** Email:**eeudp@kpwd.gov.in**
No. EE/PWD/UDN/NIT/12/2020-21/AE-2 **Dated: 23.07.2020**

Tender Notice

The Tenders for the following works are invited through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka(Viz.www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)
Name of work: (1) Reconstruction of Kapu Hosa Marigudi, Kapu, Udupi District. Amount put to tender: **Rs. 459.69 Lakhs, EMD Rs. 6.90 Lakhs**. Last date for Submission of tender in Eprocurement: **24.08.2020**. Eligible Tenderer: **Class-2 & Above**.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/UDP/MCA/219/20-21 dt. 28.7.20 **Public Works Dept, Udupi Division, Udupi**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521
No. 903/SEE/Tr.(W&M)/EE(O)/AEE-4/19-20/2048-60 Date : 27-07-2020

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement mode only)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited, invites Tenders for the following Bid Enquires.

1) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2020-21/EL/WORK_INDENT6356/ CALL-2 for **Replacement of the age old S&S make, 33kV Circuit Breakers, 33kV CTs & 33kV PTs & 33kV Isolators by new at 110kV S/s Tarihal in TL&SS Division, KPTCL, Hubballi.**

2) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2020-21/EL/WORK_INDENT6246/ CALL-2 for **Providing line protection equipments to 110 kV S/s Tarihal line at 110 kV S/s Navanagar.**

3) Bid Enquiry No.: KPTCL/2020-21/EL/WORK_INDENT6845/ CALL-3 for **Replacement of existing porcelain weakened 160KN Disc insulators by new Long rod Silicon Rubber composite (Polymer) Insulators of Capacity 160KN suitable for Moose Conductor with 20mm ball and socket for 55 Nos Anchor type towers in the existing 400kV Kaiga-Guttur DC line 1&2 in TLM Section of Haveri, Sirsi & Davangere of TL&SS Division Davangere on Total Turn Key Basis.**

The detailed notification regarding the works called through the **'e-Procurement'** mode can be obtained by logging onto e-Procurement's website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **29.07.2020**. Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele)
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Vidhyuth Nagar,
Hubballi-580024, Phone / Fax: 0836-2203094

UJVN Limited
H .O.: 'UJJWAL', Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006
Telephone: 0135-2763808 ; Fax- 0135- 2763508
CIN NO. U40101UR2001SGC025866, Website : www.ujvnl.com
Ro. No. 466 **e-Tender Notice** Dated: 27.07.2020

Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil) Maneri Bhali Stage – Ist Maneri, Uttarkashi invites online bids from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below :

Tender No : NCB/04/EE(Civil)/MB-I/Maneri/2020-21
Name of work: Renovation of control room, field hostel and officer transit camp including repair of roads at Maneri Dam Site of MB-I HEP
Estimated cost : Rs. 2,54,78,630/- (Excluding GST)
Date of availability of bid document on website : 27-07-2020
Last Date for submission of bids on website : 31-08-2020

For fuller & further details, kindly visit "e-procurement portal http://uktenders.gov.in".

Executive Engineer (Civil) MB-I Maneri
"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

SANJAY GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS
(Government of Karnataka Autonomous Institute)
Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bangalore - 560 011.
Ph : 080-2656 4516, 2656 2500, Grams : SITO
Fax : 2656 5222, E-mail : sitodirector@gmail.com
No. SGITO/e-Tender/Imported Implants/06/2020-21 Date: 27.07.2020

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(e-Procurement)

Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Byrasandra, jayanagar East, Bangalore-II invites tender from the eligible tenders through the e-procurement portal of GOK for:-

(1) IMPORTED IMPLANTS

(1) The Tenderers can download the documents from **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **30.07.2020** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through e-portal is **29.08.2020 upto 4.00 pm**

(2) The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject or cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Chief Administrative Officer I/c
DIPR/DDU/659/2020-21 Tender Inviting Authority

QuoteExpress
IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING
WINSTON CHURCHILL

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.SEE/T(W&M)H/AEE(C)/20-21/CYS-13 Date: 27.07.2020

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

KPTCL invites bids for **Capital Civil Engineering Works** coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Hubballi. The detailed notification regarding the works called through the e-procurement mode can be obtained by logging on to e-procurement's Website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
Tr. (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Vidhyuth Nagar, Hubballi – 580024.

ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಭವನದ ಪಕ್ಕದ ಕಟ್ಟಡ,
18ನೇ ಅಡ್ಡ ರಸ್ತೆ , ಮಲ್ಲೇಶ್ವರಂ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560003
ಇ-ಮೇಲ್ : **dcfurban82@yahoo.co.in**
ಸಂ: ಎ2/ಬಿಯುಡಿ/ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ/ಸಿಆರ್-39/2020-21 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23.07.2020

ಇ-ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

2020-21ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಅರಣ್ಯ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವಿವಿಧ ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಟ್ರೀಪಾರ್ಕ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಮುಂದುವರಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾದ ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೊಸ ನೆಡುತೋಪು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಾಗಿ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವಂತಹ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಮಾತ್ರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **(http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** ಮೂಲಕ ಎರಡನೇಯ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಇ-ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **31.07.2020ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **03.08.2020ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.** ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಷರತ್ತುಗಳು ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **04.08.2020ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ** ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು. ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಕೆಲಸಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಇ-ಆಡಳಿತ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಥವಾ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/- ಉಪ ಅರಣ್ಯ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ವಿಭಾಗ , ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.
ಪಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಬೆಂ.ನ/ಎಂಸಿಎ/652/2020-21

VANIYAMBADI MUNICIPALITY
TURIP FUND 2020 – 21
E-Tender Notice
Roc. No.1326/2020/E1 **Dated :24.07.2020.**

On-behalf of Vaniyambadi Municipal Council, bids are invited by the Commissioner, Vaniyambadi Municipality under **TURIP 2020-21 fund works** from the eligible contractors through Online or Offline bids for **TWO PACKAGES** with two Cover system at total Estimate Cost of **Rs.200.00 lakhs/-.** The bids and other tender documents will be downloaded from **29.07.2020 to 18.08.2020** up to 2.00 PM. Last Date and time for submission of bid document on **18.08.2020** at **3.00 PM** and opening of the Technical Bid on **18.08.2020** at **3.30 PM**. The eligible bidders with technical basis and experience holder can be downloaded from the **website http://tntenders.gov.in.**

Commissioner(I/c)
DIPR/2828/TENDER/2020 Vaniyambadi Municipality

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCIAL CORPORATION
Head Office : KSFC Bhavan, No.1/1, Thimmaiah Road
Near Cantonment Railway Station, Bangalore – 560 052
Ph : 080 22282507 Website : www.ksfc.in
No.KSFC/Admin/AV/2020-21/22/Call-2 Date : 28.07.2020

TENDER NOTIFICAITON

KSFC invites tenders from OEM/Channel Partner/authorised dealers for supply of e-Scan **Antivirus Corporate Edition software** through e-procurement portal of Government of Karnataka. The company/firms will have to upload all information, documents, rates, etc. through e-procurement site only i.e., **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** No documents will be accepted in person manually. EMD: Rs.10,000/-. (1) Last date for submission of tender : 05.08.2020 - 5.00 PM (2) Date and time of opening of Technical Bid : 06.08.2020 at 05.01 PM. Any information required can be obtained from KSFC Office during working hours or through website. For details please contact mob. No.8277377786 / 9845378910.

Sd/- Dy. Gen. Manager (P&A)

Office of The Executive Engineer, PWD Special Division, Shivamogga
Phone No.: 08182 – 222942, e-mail spdivision@gmail.com
Short-Term Tender Notification
(Two Cover System)4th & 5th Call
I.F.T. No.:15/2020-21 **Date:24.07.2020**

The Executive Engineer, Public Works, Ports & Inland Water Transport Department, Shimoga Special Division, invites tenders as per K.T.P.P act 2000, in standard Bid document K/W-3 (two cover system) for 03 works approved under H/A 5054 - App-e. Amount put to Tender is Rs. 60.00 lakhs and EMD is Rs. 1.20 lakhs. Time allowed for completion of work is 09 months including Monsoon.

The tenderers may submit tenders through E-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz., http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in). The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Section -2 (Instructions to tenderers) of document, to qualify for award of the contract. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-Procurement portal from 24-07-2020 to 03-08-2020 Last date for Receipt of Tender is on 03-08-2020. The Technical bid will be opned on 04-08-2020 and Financial bid will be opened after 05-08-2020. More information may be obtained from the office during working hours. Information published in Website is final.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Special Division, Shivamogga
DIPR/smg/No.116/07/mca/2020-21

SOUTHCO UTILITY
HEAD OFFICE: COURTPETA, BERHAMPUR, PIN-760004,DIST: GANJAM (ODISHA)
Email: commerce.southco@southcoodisha, Web: www.southcoodisha.com

TENDER NOTICE
E- TENDER NOTICE NO. SOUTHCO/MOBILE PHONE (PHOTO BASED) SPOT BILLING IN SOUTHCO UTILIY/ 2 /2020 – 21 Date: 28.07.2020

For and on behalf of the SOUTHCO Utility the undersigned invites sealed tenders in two parts from eligible registered Agencies / Firms / companies to undertake "Mobile Phone (Photo based) Spot Billing" activities in SOUTHCO Utility including meter-reading, bill generation & bill delivery to the consumers in 42 sub-Division of Southco utility Single Phase Consumers [approximately 15.83 Lakh Live consumers] across [17 Electrical Distribution Divisions].

Item Description	Unit	EMD Amount (Rs.)	Cost of Tender Document (Rs.)	Last Date & time of submission of online
MOBILE PHONE(PHOTO BASED) SPOT BILLING IN SOUTHCO UTILITY	Per Sub-Divn	50000.00	Rs. 5000/- + GST@ 12% = Rs. 5600	19.08.2020 (5pm)

Interested bidders may visit SOUTHCO's official web site **www.southcoodisha.com or www.tenderwizard.com** /SOUTHCO for detail specification.
Issue of online tender documents (bid sheets):- From DT 28.07.2020 up to 19.08.2020 (1.00 PM)
Last date of submission of online tender: - Up to Dt- 19.08.2020 (5.00 PM)

Sd/-
General Manager (Commerce)

SOUTHCO UTILITY
HEAD OFFICE: COURTPETA, BERHAMPUR, PIN-760004,DIST: GANJAM (ODISHA)
Email: commerce.southco@southcoodisha, Web: www.southcoodisha.com

TENDER NOTICE
E- TENDER NOTICE NO. SOUTHCO/MOBILE PHONE SPOT BILLING & COLLECTION IN SOUTHCO UTILIY/ 1 /2020–21 Date: 28.07.2020

For and on behalf of the SOUTHCO Utility the undersigned invites sealed tenders in two parts from eligible registered Agencies / Firms / companies to undertake "Mobile Phone Spot Billing& collection" activities in SOUTHCO Utility including meter-reading, bill generation & bill delivery and revenue collection in following Sub-Division [Nawarangpur, Papadahandi, Umerkote, Laxmipur, Sunabeda, Manmunda, Malkangiri, Balimela and Theruballi] in respect of Single Phase Consumers [approximately 6.47 Lakh Live consumers] across [5 Electrical Distribution Divisions].

Item Description	Unit	EMD Amount (Rs.)	Cost of Tender Document (Rs.)	Last Date & time of submission of online
MOBILE PHONE SPOT BILLING & COLLECTION IN SOUTHCO UTILITY	Per Sub-Divn	50000.00	Rs5000/- + GST@ 12% = Rs5600	19.08.2020 (5pm)

Interested bidders may visit SOUTHCO's official web site **www.southcoodisha.com or www.tenderwizard.com** /SOUTHCO for detail specification.
Issue of online tender documents (bid sheets):- From Dt 28.07.2020 up to 19.08.2020 (1.00 PM)
Last date of submission of online tender: - Up to dt- 19.08.2020 (5.00 PM)

Sd/-
General Manager (Commerce)

QuoteExpress **YOU CAN'T WAIT FOR INSPIRATION. YOU HAVE TO GO AFTER IT WITH A CLUB**
❯ JACK LONDON

EXFILE •

Mosquitoes buzzing in the Arctic

Most Indians think mosquitoes are found in places which have a tropical weather, characterised by warm temperatures and rainfall. However, far towards the North Pole, it's mosquito season in Greenland. We take a look why these pests thrive in colder regions of the Arctic

Caribou grazing near a pond in Kangerlussuaq, Greenland | MELISSA DESIERVO

MOSQUITO SEASON OF THE ARCTIC

JUNE AND JULY

marks the period when Arctic mosquitoes (Aedes nigripes) are in peak abundance, buzzing about the tundra

Arctic mosquitoes serve as an important food source to other animals, but are pests to humans and wildlife

Mosquitoes abundance can affect caribou population

EGGS FREEZE IN WINTER

These mosquitoes spend most of their lives in an aquatic environment in shallow, tundra ponds. Their eggs become frozen in winter and hatch into larvae when the ponds melt in spring

2-3 WEEKS

Time Arctic mosquitoes spend in the larval stage before they develop into pupa and then adults

FINDING THE CAUSE OF THE ABUNDANCE

Arctic mosquitoes' annual abundance and ecological role remains poorly understood. Researchers wanted to find out where they are most abundant during the larval stage

FINDINGS

According to the study published in the journal *Ecology*, Arctic mosquito populations appear to be driven by food quality rather than predator density

STUDY SAMPLE

8

different ponds between Kangerlussuaq and the margin of the Greenland Ice Sheet

As larvae, Arctic mosquitoes feed on microbial biofilms that are attached to dead organic matter in the ponds

METHODOLOGY

Using a food web approach, in May and June 2018, researchers investigated how variation in the food quality (bottom up approach), the predaceous diving beetle (*C. dolabratus*) (top down approach) and other conditions such as temperature and nutrients, affected the larval population

HIGH LARVAE MORTALITY RATE

One pond, which is estimated to be half the size of a football field, had about 12.4 million larvae when the mosquitoes first hatched, but less than 15% of the larvae made it until the adult stage

Arctic mosquito populations appear to be driven by what they are eating rather than who is eating them

Melissa H. DeSiervo, first author

SURPRISING FINDS

1. Researchers earlier hypothesised that Arctic mosquitoes do not make it to the larva stage because they either do not have enough to eat or they are consumed by the diving beetle
2. The new study revealed that ponds with the best food quality had the lowest population growth rates, as the mosquitoes tended to overcrowd these sites
3. These sites had the highest hatching mosquitoes, resulting in intense competition for food and poor survival. In contrast, ponds with lower food quality had higher population growth rates

Heart inflammation seen in Covid-19 survivors

Study reported cardiac involvement in 78% of patients with symptoms irrespective of preexisting conditions

NEW FINDINGS

BERLIN: An analysis of 100 patients who recently recovered from novel coronavirus infection has revealed that nearly 80 per cent of them have cardiac manifestations of the disease, a finding which indicates the need for further research to understand the long-term consequences of Covid-19.

The study, published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, assessed 100 patients who recently recovered from Covid-19 illness from Germany's University Hospital Frankfurt between April and June 2020.

According to the researchers, including those from the hospital, cardiac involvement was observed in 78 patients, and ongoing heart inflammation in 60 individuals.

They said the reported symptoms were independent of preexisting conditions, severity and overall course of the acute illness, and time from the original diagnosis.

In the study, the scientists assessed recent recovery from the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 infection as determined by RT-PCR assays which check for the presence of the virus from swab tests of patients' upper respiratory tract.

The researchers assessed the patients' demographic characteristics, blood markers of heart health, and cardiovascular magnetic resonance (CMR) scans.

They said 53 of the patients were male, and the average age was 49 years.

According to the study, 67 patients recovered at home, while 33 required hospitalisation.

At the time of the heart scan, the scientists said the molecule high-sensitivity troponin T (hsTnT) was detectable in the blood samples of 71 of the 100 patients recently recovered from Covid-19 and significantly elevated in five of them.

They said a total of 78 patients recently recovered from Covid-19 had abnormal CMR scan findings.

Researchers said that the long-term health effects of these findings cannot yet be determined, several of the abnormalities described have been previously related to worse outcome in inflammatory cardiomyopathies. The researchers also noted that heart tissue sample analysis in the patients with severe findings showed active inflammation caused by the immune system.

"To our knowledge, this is the first prospective report on a cohort of unselected patients with a recent Covid-19 infection identified from a local testing centr who voluntarily underwent evaluation for cardiac involvement with CMR. The results of our study provide important insights into the prevalence of cardiovascular involvement in the early convalescent stage," the scientists wrote in the study.

Citing the limitations of the study, the researchers said the findings are not validated for the use in pediatric patients 18 years and younger.

They added that the research also does not represent patients during acute Covid-19 infection, or those who are completely asymptomatic with the disease.

The scientists also wrote that several patients within had new or persistent symptoms, which further increased the likelihood of positive CMR findings.

Our findings demonstrate that participants with a relative paucity of preexisting cardiovascular condition and with mostly home-based recovery had frequent cardiac inflammatory involvement, which was similar to the hospitalized subgroup with regards to severity and extent

Study

NO CLEAR WORD YET ON POSSIBLE COVID RELAPSE

DOUBT PERSISTS

WASHINGTON: Can you get the coronavirus twice? Scientists don't know for sure yet, but they believe it's unlikely.

Health experts think people who had Covid-19 will have some immunity against a repeat infection. But they don't know how much protection or how long it would last.

There have been reports of people testing positive for the virus weeks after they were believed to have recovered, leading some to think they may have been reinfected. More likely, experts say people were suffering from the same illness or the tests detected remnants of the original infection. There's also the chance tests could have been false positives.

Scientists say there has been no documented instance of a patient spreading the virus to others after retesting positive.

With similar viruses, studies have shown that people could fall sick again three months to a year after their first infections. It's still too early to know whether that's also possible with the novel coronavirus.

"It's very much emerging science," said Dr. Philip Landrigan, director of the global public health program at Boston College.

A small US study published last week also found the antibodies that fight the coronavirus may only last a few months in people with mild illness, suggesting people could become susceptible again.

The researchers found that the antibodies had a half-life of 36 days, which means that half of them would be gone after that much time.

It dovetails with a previous report from China also suggesting antibodies quickly fade.

But antibodies aren't the only defence against a virus, and the other parts of the immune system could also help provide protection.

Settling the question of whether reinfection is possible is important. If it can occur, that could undermine the idea of "immunity passports" for returning back to workplaces. And it would not bode well for hopes of getting a long-lasting vaccine.

Oslo removes Picasso's murals

ART INSTALLATION

The removal of a pair of concrete murals by Pablo Picasso was completed on Tuesday from a government building in the Norwegian capital of Oslo whose demolition was under way. Opinions were divided over whether to spare what some considered an architectural masterpiece, while others said it was ugly.

The so-called Y-block will be replaced by a modern and safer construction after the government headquarters were targeted in June 2011 by Norwegian mass murderer Anders Behring Breivik. He first set off a bomb at the nearby office of the prime minister, since demolished, where eight people died. He then went to Utoya island and killed 69 more in a shooting spree. The total cost of the removal of the art pieces — to be preserved and installed elsewhere — and the demolition is estimated at $6.4 million, Norwegian news agency *NTB* said. The artworks include the *Fisherman*, a Picasso drawing sandblasted on a 250-tonne section of the building's front that was removed on Monday, as well as a piece by Norwegian sculptor Carl Nesjar.

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New study claims that 3 billion animals were affected by Australian bushfires

WILDLIFE DISASTER

SYDNEY: Nearly three billion animals were killed or displaced by Australia's 2019-20 wildfires in "one of the worst wildlife disasters in modern history", according to a report released on Tuesday.

The study by scientists from several Australian universities said the wildlife hit included 143 million mammals, 2.46 billion reptiles, 180 million birds and 51 million frogs.

While the report did not say how many animals died because of the fires, the prospects for those that escaped the flames "were probably not great" due to a lack of food, shelter and protection from predators, said Chris Dickman, one of its authors.

The fires ravaged more than 1,15,000 square kilometres of drought-stricken bushland and forest across Australia in late 2019 and early 2020, killing more than 30 people and destroying thousands of homes.

It was the broadest and most prolonged bushfire season in modern Australian history, with scientists attributing the severity of the crisis to the impacts of climate change.

An earlier study in January estimated the fires had killed a billion animals in the hardest-hit eastern states of New South Wales and Victoria. But the survey released on Tuesday was the first to cover fire zones across the continent, said lead scientist Lily van Eeden of the University of Sydney.

Results from the survey were still being processed, with a final report due to be released late next month, but the authors said the number of three billion animals affected was unlikely to change.

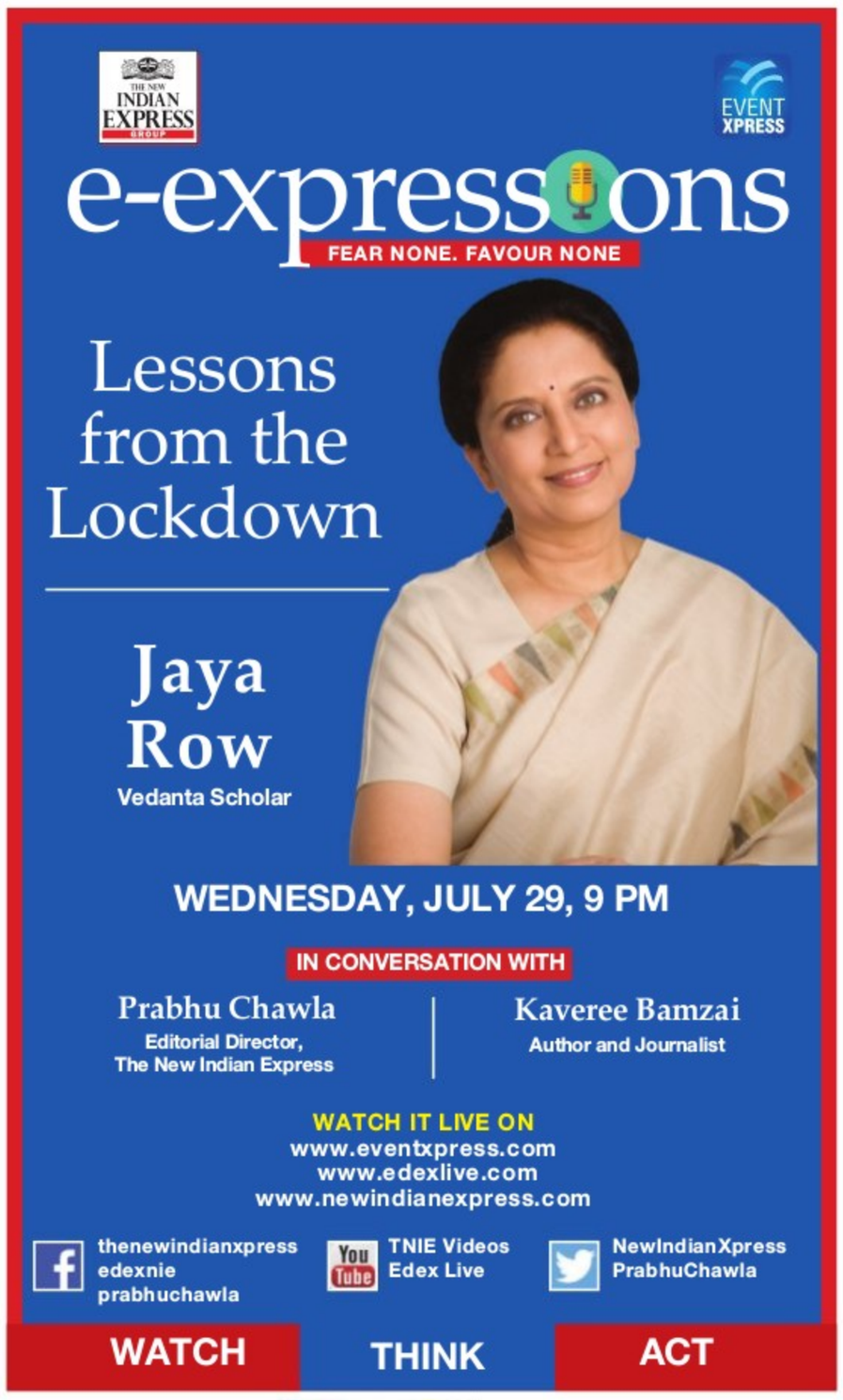
"The interim findings are shocking," said Dermot O'Gorman, CEO of the Australian branch of the World Wide Fund for Nature, which commissioned the report.

"It's hard to think of another event anywhere in the world in living memory that has killed or displaced that many animals," he said.

"This ranks as one of the worst wildlife disasters in modern history."

The plight of Australia's popular koalas during the fires garnered international media attention, with thousands of the tree-dwelling marsupials believed to have perished.

But a government report early this year cited 100 other threatened native plant and animal species that had lost more than half their habitat to the blazes, raising the prospect of far greater losses.



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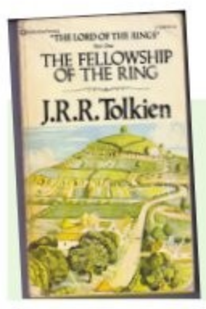


DAY'S DIARY

Book published

The Fellowship of the Ring, the first of three volumes in *The Lord of the Rings*, was published on this day in 1954 in the United Kingdom

A SEQUEL

The three-part work, set in the land of Middle-earth, forms a sequel to JRR Tolkien's *The Hobbit* (1937) and constitutes one of the most successful novels in publishing history

PUBLISHERS' DECISION

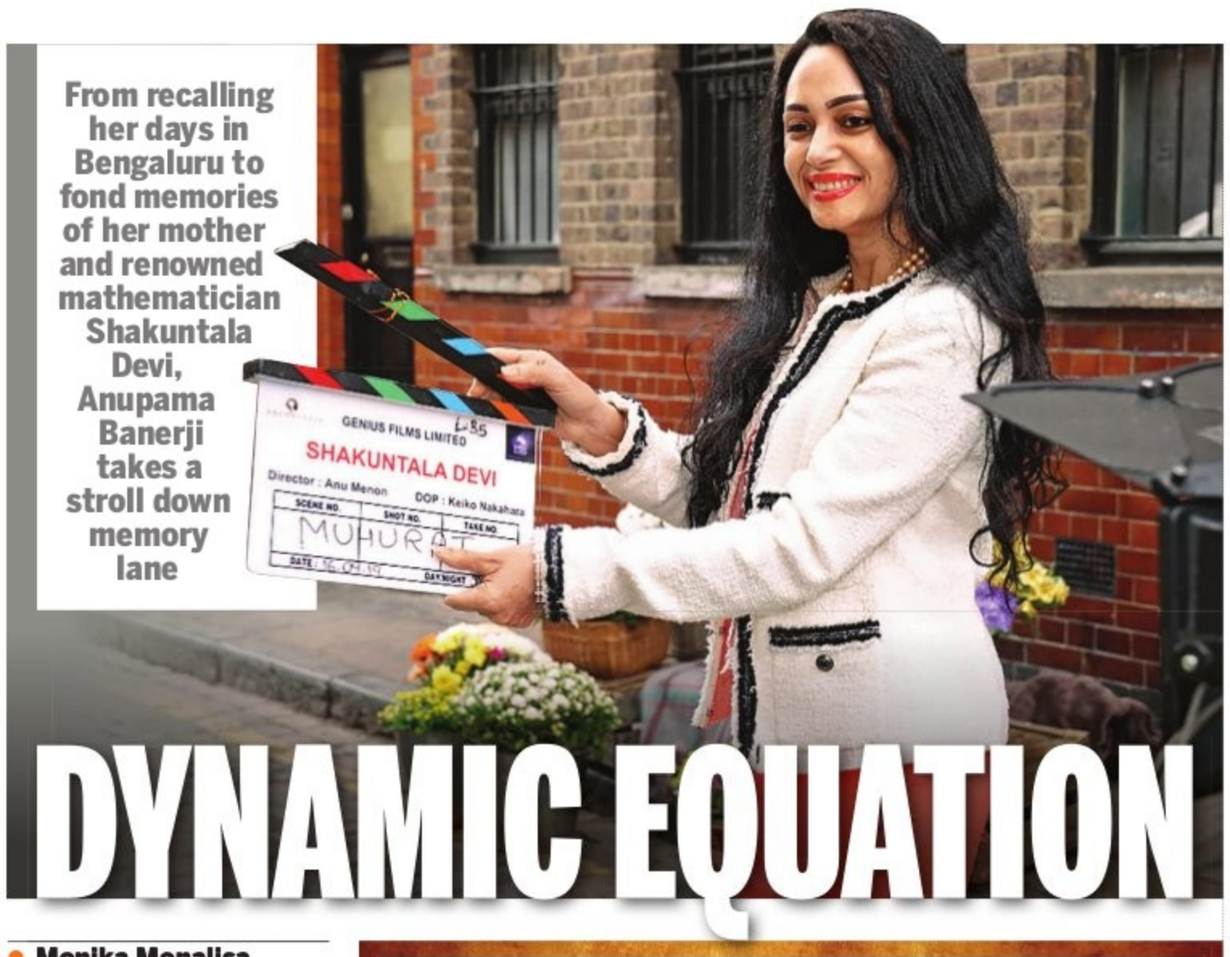
Due to the length of the book, the publishers – George Allen & Unwin – decided to split the publication of the book into three volumes, the other two books being *The Two Towers* (1954) and *The Return of the King* (1955)

A GENRE BEGINS

The Lord of the Rings created the genre of modern fantasy literature. During the 1990s, it appeared in several large surveys as the 'best', 'favourite,' or 'most important' book of the 20th century

Dhananjay and Rachita Ram to share screen space

PG 4



From recalling her days in Bengaluru to fond memories of her mother and renowned mathematician Shakuntala Devi, Anupama Banerji takes a stroll down memory lane

DYNAMIC EQUATION

Monika Monalisa

Anupama Banerji's daily routine is packed with interviews about her mother but she says she could go on without complaining because it is a reminisce of her time spent with 'mummy'. As everyone braces for the release of the movie *Shakuntala Devi-Human Computer*, where Vidya Balan dons the lead, Banerji whose character is portrayed by Sanya Malhotra and was based in Bengaluru, gives a sneak peak into her life.

Banerji's life is divided between two cities – London and Bengaluru. Though she is currently in London, Bengaluru is equally a home for her. "I have spent 17 years in Bengaluru. I met my husband there and both my daughters were born there. I always pay a yearly visit to the city," says Banerji.

While the world remembers Shakuntala Devi as a great mathematician, Banerji remembers her as extremely affectionate and caring. "There was never a dull moment and she was very possessive. While growing up, she was not just my mom but also my dad. We were the only family for each other," says Banerji, who adds that her mother was unpredictable and fun too.

Agrees Ajay Abhaya Kumar, Devi's son-in-law, who says that there was never a moderate emotion in his mother-in-law's case. Though Kumar remains an integral part of Devi's life, it wasn't easy to win her heart. "Anu (Anupama) was her only child. Since she was playing the part of both parents, the possessiveness was always double and now multiply that emotion by 10 times and you will just reach the surface of Devi's emotion," laughs Kumar, confessing that it was not the easiest task to impress her.

From the archives: Shakuntala Devi through the years

He further recalls that Devi was extremely fond of south Indian snacks – kodubale, nippattu – and it was impossible to keep her away from them, even if she was extremely sick. Banerji adds, "She was diabetic and extremely sick. I literally had to clear all the snacks from the kitchen, but she being the smarter one would pack them in a plastic cover and keep it in the trash bin. Because that was the last place I would go and check. One day she got busted when I was cleaning the trash bin as she insisted that I don't," says Banerji, adding that her mother would tease her saying, "Mamu (Banerji's nickname for her mother) has become mummy now."

Reminiscing further, Banerji, who is in her 40's, says Devi had a very distinct sense of humour. "When Ajay and I visited her on our 15th anniversary, she looked pensive and in her classic humour said, 'Congratulations, I couldn't have done it'," says Banerji, who cites that her mother wasn't always keen on being funny on most occasions.

Being the daughter of a renowned mathematician, it was inevitable for her to avoid the question of whether she took it after her mother in terms of her love for maths. "I seriously doubt if anyone can be as much in love with math as my mum was. It was never a question on my mind to level up to her. I guess we were too busy living our lives, I am her greatest fan," says Banerji. While a visit to Bengaluru in December is on the cards, uncertainty looms large due to pandemic.

Ask her about a fond saying and she recalls, "Like my mother used to say at the end of the day it will always be Mamu and mummy."

While growing up, she was not just my mom but also my dad. We were the only family for each other

— Anupama Banerji

Shakuntala Devi (centre) with former colleague Shivdev Deshmudre and his wife Rekha

Math, meals, memories and more

Friends and colleagues share their experiences about the 'Human Computer'

Monika Monalisa

Shilpa Raghupathy was in her early 20s when she first met Shakuntala Devi in 2009, for an interview for the post of her secretary. While anyone would get intimidated by the presence of the greatest mathematician, Raghupathy was not. "When I met her I didn't know who she was. I know it's shocking when I say this," laughs Raghupathy.

She worked as her personal assistant for one-and-a-half years, when Devi was busy with the work of an educational trust and was engrossed in her astrology work. In 2009, Raghupathy had just completed her engineering and with the job market being tough due to the recession, she considered this opportunity. When Devi came to know of Raghupathy's qualification, she rejected Raghupathy for being overqualified for the post. "Both my father and I had to request her to give me chance. She agreed and told me it was just for a few weeks but I ended up staying for more than a year," says the 34-year-old. While Devi had an intimidating personality, Raghupathy says, "She never meant to be that way. She was not rude or arrogant when she spoke. She was very knowledgeable."

Agrees Shivdev Deshmudre, who knew Devi for over 30 years. Deshmudre first met Devi in 1981, as a client at the advertising firm he had co-founded. "At that time, she was into astrology and wanted to publicise it. Though she didn't carry on with the firm, we remained friends till the end," says Deshmudre, who is the founding trustee of Shakuntala Devi Educational Foundation Public Trust.

Deshmudre remembers Devi as vivacious, enthusiastic and full of life. "She had once visited me my firm and I was supposed to give her a breakdown of some costs. Since her calculations were impeccable, I requested her to check. She immediately replied, 'You do it. I don't want to waste my brain on you'," says Deshmudre, adding that Devi had a good sense of humour. Having spent most of her life in London, Devi was a true-blue-Kannadiga at heart. "Her Kannada was excellent, and she spoke without any accent. And she loved akki roti and holige made by my wife," says Deshmudre.

Not just South Indian food, Devi loved food in general asserts Raj Bhasin, a trustee at her educational trust. "Whenever she used to land in Bengaluru, I would get a call to keep makki ki roti and sarson da saag for her since I am Punjabi. She was so fond of food that she even wrote many cookbooks," says Bhasin who met Devi 15 years ago.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Mention Bengaluru, and the first images that come to mind are its heritage buildings, IT parks and weather, not to mention the pub culture. But how familiar are you with the city's history? Take part in our weekly quiz series, curated by city-based history researcher Arun Prasad, to learn more about namma Ooru. It will be published every Wednesday. Send answers to bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com with the subject line 'Know Your City Quiz'. Correct answers and names of the first three respondents will be featured in CE on Thursday.

Questions

1. An iconic park in Bengaluru is named after the longest serving and the most admired British Commissioner of erstwhile Mysore state. In 1866 an equestrian statue in his memory was also unveiled and installed in the park. Name the British Commissioner and the park.

2. A well-known scientist who made Bengaluru his permanent home went on to receive the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930 and was the first non-White recipient of this laureate. Name the scientist.

3. 'The City Beautiful' is one of the two highly-lauded books on Bengaluru authored by T P Issar. Name the other two books.

CITY READ

Dayanand Sagar Institutions announces online admission process

Dayananda Sagar Institutions opened its admission process online, minimising the need for parents and prospective students from physically visiting the campus offices. The institution will also be offering counselling on a one-on-one basis by specialist faculty and will provide a virtual campus tour to give applicants a view of the infrastructure and other facilities. The college will host their new academic session online

COVID CARE

Myths & Facts

Myth: Rinsing your nose with saline prevents Covid-19

Fact: There is limited evidence that regular rinsing of the nose with saline helps people recover more quickly from common cold.

Myth: 5G mobile networks spread COVID-19

Fact: Viruses cannot travel on radio waves/ mobile networks.

Myth: Spraying and injesting bleach or another disinfectant into your body will protect you against COVID-19.

Fact: Bleach and disinfectant should be used carefully to disinfect surfaces only.

Myths: Mosquito bites spread the coronavirus

Fact: The carriers of the virus are humans. Mosquitoes, generally, spread any form of virus or bacteria by blood; by sucking the blood of the infected person and then transmitting the virus by biting an unaffected person.

Myth: Only the elderly are affected by the virus

Fact: No, the chances of them getting infected are higher due to a weak immune system. But younger people too are at risk of catching the virus.

Myth: Hand dryers can kill coronavirus

Fact: False. It is better to wash hands with soap or to use an alcohol-based hand rub to protect yourself.

GRAPHIC: AMOL VYAVHARE

REEL TALK

'Kannada industry should've made film on Shakuntala Devi'

A Sharadhaa

Prakash Belawadi is an actor beyond regions, and well-known for donning many hats, including that of an actor, theatre artiste, teacher, journalist, activist, and motivational speaker. This multi-faceted personality, who began his journey in Kannada cinema, is now a popular face in Bollywood, and South cinema as well. Belawadi shares that he feels a sense of belonging with Bollywood. "Even though director Girish Karnad gave me my first big role in the movie *Kanooru Heggadithi*, I didn't get noticed much. It is only after I got established in Bollywood that mainstream directors from Kannada cinema began noticing me. I got cast in off-beat films directed by TN Seetharam, and Mahantesh Ramdrug's *Aggasi Parlour*, but participation in mainstream cinema took time," says Belawadi.

The actor's in the news for his upcoming Hindi biopic, *Shakuntala Devi*, that is to be out on Amazon Prime on July 31. The film, starring Vidya Balan, has the actor playing the father to the genius mathematician. "It's a small role, but I agreed because it's a biopic, and it is about one of our own. It's a film that the Kannada industry should have thought of and made. It is an important story."

The actor, who shares that science and math were his favourite subjects growing up, reminisces fond memories of meeting Shakuntala Devi. "I was in my sixth standard when she had come to our school, and I remember how stunned we all were, with how she would make calculations. This programme was organised alongside a magic show. She was a living legend for us. Having interacted with her and having got her autographs, I can tell you that the memories are still fresh," he says.

Belawadi, who is not at liberty to divulge too much about his role, shares, "Fathers are big influencers, and in control of the family, especially from the perspective of the children. It is a combination of family structure and patriarchy. This comes into play in my role in *Shakuntala Devi*, and is crucial."

Though he is happy to be part of the biopic, his grouse is that the film could not be shot in Bengaluru. "She is so much a Bengaluru-Mysuru person, but they preferred to shoot in other places," says Belawadi, who commends writer and director Anu Menon for choosing the life of Shakuntala Devi to make a film on. On Vidya Balan, who plays the mathematician, he says, "I am a big fan of her. She is pivotal in the return of female-centric films."

I was in my sixth standard when she had come to our school, and I remember how stunned we all were, with how she would make calculations — Prakash Belawadi, actor

Continued on page 4

CHOCOLATE DELIGHT

INGREDIENTS

- **Wheat flour:** 1 cup
- **Semolina:** 1/2 cup
- **Hershey's chocolate powder:** 1/2 cup
- **Jaggery powder:** 3/4 cup
- **Curd:** 1 cup
- **Baking soda:** 3/4 tsp

METHOD

- Mix all the dry ingredients – wheat flour, semolina, chocolate powder and baking soda.
- Add curd to the dry ingredients and mix it to a smooth batter.
- Line a baking dish with butter.
- Bake in conventional microwave oven for five minutes.
- Remove and allow it to cool.
- Invert it into a plate and slice in desired shape.
- Add nuts of your choice.

– by Uma Murali, Coimbatore

QUICK FIX

What's cooking IN YOUR KITCHEN DURING THIS LOCKDOWN?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at cityexpresschn@gmail.com.

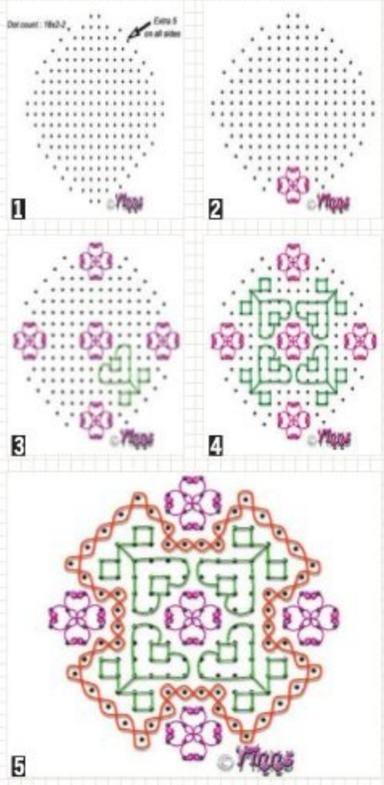
DOTS & DESIGNS

18*2 SIKKU KOLAM

STEPS

- Place 18 dots in two columns.
- Then decrease dots by 2 (leaving a dot on top and bottom) until the dot count reaches to 2.
- Repeat the same pattern on other side.
- And extra 5 dots on all four sides to add extra sikku strand.
- Draw a flower pattern as shown.
- Add the same flower designs at three corners and at the centre too.
- Now add a heart and leaves element on the side.
- Next add the same elements on all four sides.
- The sikku strands encapsulate the inner design.

– by Vins Raj



BRIGHT SPOT

'EGG'CITING GREEN MISSION

Varad Kubal loved being in the lap of nature even as a child. With his parents away at work, Varad, a resident of Achra village in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra, would spend his days in a coconut orchard. He would watch the birds and animals, and keep fresh water for them. Three years back, he rescued the migratory Bridled Terns. In June 2019, he launched a drive to plant native varieties like jamun, neem, banyan and peepal trees. Last month, he planted saplings on the Achra Bandar along the Mumbai-Goa Highway with fellow conservationists from his class in school. The 15-year-old has now launched an initiative called 'seed egg', where eggshells are used to sow seeds. He chanced upon this idea after attending the 'Eureka Science Club' sessions. He paints eggshells, fills them with soil and the seeds of a local plant. The shell is sealed using glue and paper, and pasted on an empty matchbox. These shells are then dropped into the soil, which then germinate into trees.

APPSMART

in Tags

This app will help you increase likes on your photos, posts and their rating. Just copy and paste necessary hashtags. It has all popular hashtags, implemented convenient search.
Available on: Android & iOS

Garny

Preview your photos before posting them on Instagram with Garny! Finally all you need is in one app!
Available on: Android & iOS

Facetune2

Facetune2 is an easy to use photo editor that helps you retouch your selfies and acts as your own personal glam squad when it comes to enhancing your digital look.
Available on: Android & iOS

FIT BIT

TITTIBHASANA
(FIRELY POSE)

In Sanskrit, 'Tittibha' means 'fly' or 'insect' and 'asana' means 'pose'. It is an arm-balancing asana that demands strength and perseverance. It has a number of physical and mental benefits. It activates Manipura, the solar plexus, chakra. Located at the navel, this chakra is associated with self-control, self-confidence, emotional balance, and contentment. Practitioners who energise this chakra through this pose can strengthen their sense of self and gain better control of their emotions.

STEPS

- Start with Adho Mukha Svanasana.
- Walk towards your hands. Ensure the feet are in front of your hands. Let your hands through your legs and press them behind the calves.
- Keep your arms and shoulders as far behind on your thighs as you can. Without moving, place your palms behind your feet to such an extent that you hold your heels with your thumb and index finger.
- Delicately twist your knees and squat as you rest the back of your legs near your shoulders.
- Once your fingers and palms are spread, make sure you shift your body weight onto them.
- Lift your feet off the floor. Straighten your legs. Once you stabilise, straighten your arms. Squeeze your thighs against the upper arms to gain more height.
- Remain in the pose for 30 to 60 seconds. If you want, you can repeat this process two or three times.

BENEFITS

- Makes your wrist stronger along with improving the strength of the arms.
- Tightens and tones the abdominal organs.
- Stretches your upper back, groin, and hamstrings.
- Helps in bringing an overall sense of balance and improves core strength.
- Good for your mind.
- Improves digestion.

LIMITATIONS

- Pregnant and menstruating women must avoid.
- In case of recent elbow, wrist, shoulder or lower-back injuries, avoid this pose.
- Practise this under the guidance of a yoga expert.

– by N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

SOUND BOARD

CHRIS GETHARD'S BEAUTIFUL ANONYMOUS
Comedian Chris Gethard invites anonymous callers to tell him stories. From confessions and family secrets to philosophical discussions, it could be anything.
- On Apple Podcast

WHERE SHOULD WE BEGIN?
Listen to therapist Esther Perel counsel couples as they reveal the most intimate, personal, and complicated details of the conflicts that have brought them to her door.
- On Stitcher

SNAP JUDGEMENT PRESENTS: SPOOKED
Spooked features true-life supernatural stories, told firsthand by people who can barely believe it happened themselves. Gear up for some spine-tingling moments.
- On Apple Podcast

THE ALARMIST
Who is to blame for the greatest tragedies? The Plague. The sinking of the Titanic. The break-up of the Beatles. Writer and comedian Rebecca Delgado-Smith and guests scrutinise history's greatest disasters to figure out what went wrong, and who's to blame.
- On Google Podcast

MOTHERHOOD SESSIONS
On Motherhood Sessions, Dr Alexandra Sacks, a renowned reproductive psychiatrist sits down with mothers and lets us listen in on conversations that are hard to have outside of a therapist's office.
- On Stitcher

POPULAR ON YOUTUBE

RAAM
Raam, a final year B.E student, studying in Bellary comes to visit his joint family in Mysore in the vacation. His cousin's marriage is fixed. But his cousin loves another NRI. Knowing this Ram helps his cousin to get her married to her lover.
- Cast: Puneeth Rajkumar, Priyamani

AIYANNA
Aiyanna is a good samaritan living with his wife and a caring brother. However, when he and his wife are murdered by a gang of criminals, his brother decides to take revenge.
- Cast: Darshan, Namitha

HUBLI
An unidentified person is badly injured but is saved by an ex-service man and his daughter. He recovers slowly but loses his memory.
- Cast: Sudeep, Rakshita

MINSARA KANNA
Indira hates men and only employs women in her company and personal staff. Kaasi enters her life as a driver and soon, one by one, his entire family is employed in her house, with a desired motive.
- Cast: Khushboo, Vijay, Rambha, Monica Castellino

Scan this QR code to find out how your favourite celebs are coping with the lockdown.

WHAT'S ON TED TALKS

1 THE COMPLEX GEOMETRY OF ISLAMIC DESIGN BY ERIC BROUG
In Islamic culture, geometric design is everywhere – in mosques, madrasas, palaces, and private homes. And despite the remarkable complexity of these designs, they can be created with just a compass to draw circles and a ruler to make lines within them. Eric Broug covers the basics of geometric Islamic design.

2 DOES GRAMMAR MATTER? BY ANDREEA S. CALUDE
It can be hard sometimes, when speaking, to remember all the grammatical rules that guide us to write. Does it even matter? Andreea S. Calude dives into the age-old argument between linguistic prescriptivists and descriptivists – who have two very different opinions on the matter.

3 ARE FOOD PRESERVATIVES BAD FOR YOU? BY ELEANOR NELSEN
Food doesn't last. But they last at the grocery store, thanks to preservatives. But what exactly are preservatives? How do they help keep food edible? And are they safe? Eleanor Nelsen investigates.

4 CAN BEAUTY OPEN OUR HEARTS TO DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS? BY TITUS KAPHAR
Artist Titus Kaphar reflects on his artistic evolution and takes us on a tour of his career – from 'The Jerome Project' to 'From a Tropical Space'. Kaphar also shares the idea behind NXTHVN, an arts incubator and community for young people in his hometown.

5 THE COURAGE TO LIVE WITH RADICAL UNCERTAINTY BY SHEKINAH ELMORE
Oncologist and cancer survivor Shekinah Elmore shares how she embraced life after a rare genetic diagnosis – and explains why she believes doctors have a duty to help their patients learn to live with radical uncertainty.

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL

BABRU (Kannada)
Two strangers with different motives are brought together by a common language, and a road trip across the United States.
- Cast: Suman Nagarkar, Mahi Hiremath
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

KAAKAN (Marathi)
A young boy tries to reunite lovers who were separated because of the differences in their social class after 32 years.
- Cast: Ashutosh Gaikwad, Jitendra Joshi, Urmila Kothare
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹ 199 per month

MUGAMOODI (Tamil)
In order to impress Shakthi, Bruce Lee wears a superhero costume and performs martial arts techniques. However, he gets involved in a police chase and helps the officers seize the offenders.
- Cast: Jiiva, Pooja Hegde, Nasser
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

MEMORIES (Malayalam)
Sam Alex, a police officer, resorts to alcohol to ease the pain of his family's death. However, his life turns around when he is called to investigate a series of murders showing a similar pattern.
- Cast: Prithviraj Sukumaran, Meghana Raj, Rahul Madhav
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹ 399 per year

FRENCH BIRIYANI (Kannada)
Simon, representative of a pharmaceutical company from France, and Asgar, local auto driver from Shivajinagar, share a two-day long journey in Bengaluru. That twisted journey with comedy of errors changes the way they look at life.
- Cast: Danish Sait, Disha Madan, Sal Yusuf
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

EVARU (Telugu)
Vikram, a police inspector, is tasked with catching the killer of a senior officer who has allegedly raped Sameera. When he starts investigating, he encounters dark secrets tied to his past.
- Cast: Adivi Sesh, Regina Cassandra, Navin Chandra
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹129 per month

MANTO (Hindi)
Saadat Hasan Manto, an established story writer in the Indian film industry, is devastated when his family is forced to flee to Pakistan due to the tensions between the Hindus and Muslims.
- Cast: Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Rasika Duggal, Tahir Bhasin, Rishi Kapoor
- Watch on: Netflix
- Registration: ₹199 per month

ENGLISH/FOREIGN

TERMINATOR: DARK FATE (English)
In Mexico City, a newly modified liquid Terminator – the Rev-9 model – arrives from the future to kill a young factory worker named Dani Ramos. Also sent back in time is Grace, a hybrid cyborg human who must protect Ramos from the seemingly indestructible robotic assassin. But the two women soon find some much-needed help from a pair of unexpected allies – seasoned warrior Sarah Connor and the T-800 Terminator.
- Cast: Linda Hamilton, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Mackenzie Davis
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹399 per year

TOMORROWLAND: A WORLD BEYOND (English)
Frank, a former inventor, and Casey, a curious teenager, embark on a dangerous mission to unravel the secrets of Tomorrowland, an unexplored dimension in time and space.
- Cast: Britt Robertson, Raffey Cassidy, George Clooney, Pierce Gagnon
- Watch on: Disney+Hotstar
- Registration: ₹ 399 per year

A SEASON IN FRANCE (French)
An African high-school teacher flees from the country during a war. He reaches France where he falls in love with a woman, who gives him and his family shelter.
- Cast: Sandrine Bonnaire, Eriq Ebouaney, Ibrahim Burama Darboe
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

BASED ON A TRUE STORY (French)
Although she is wading through her own personal crisis, a writer becomes involved with an obsessive admirer.
- Cast: Eva Green, Emmanuelle Seigner, Vincent Perez, Dominique Pinon
- Watch on: Amazon Prime
- Registration: ₹ 129 per month

Alien lives matter

URBAN BOURBON
Hriday Ranjan
Writer, comedian

The Pentagon stirred up an intergalactic hornet's nest this week when reports revealed that the US government was going to release some classified information related to UFOs. A classic case of American mumbo-jumbo, the objects were called 'off-world vehicles not made on this earth' – governmentise for 'aliens'. The report sent first-world netizens into a tizzy, bringing to life debates about extraterrestrials.

At this juncture, it is important that I slip in a disclaimer. I have never been very good with science. If you placed two beakers in front of me, I wouldn't be able to tell Sodium from Florium. But I have always held the conviction that aliens must exist somewhere in the universe.

I have always felt it was rather arrogant to assume we were the only ones in the universe. For the longest time, human beings have gotten away with shockingly insensitive portrayal of extraterrestrial life. Literature admittedly takes a marginally kinder stance on aliens. But movies, with their incessant need for a strong, evil villain – have depicted aliens in absolutely evil light.

Take the film *Independence Day*, for example. A film where a US President realises that it isn't enough to build a wall to check immigration, and so flies to outer space and kills the aliens himself. Or Predator, where aliens attack US soldiers in Vietnam, only to meet Arnold Schwarzenegger, who unknown to them, is a seven-time 'Mr. Universe'. Or War of the Worlds, where Tom Cruise fights aliens while looking out for his daughter, an action that would be frowned upon amidst the growing debate around nepotism today.

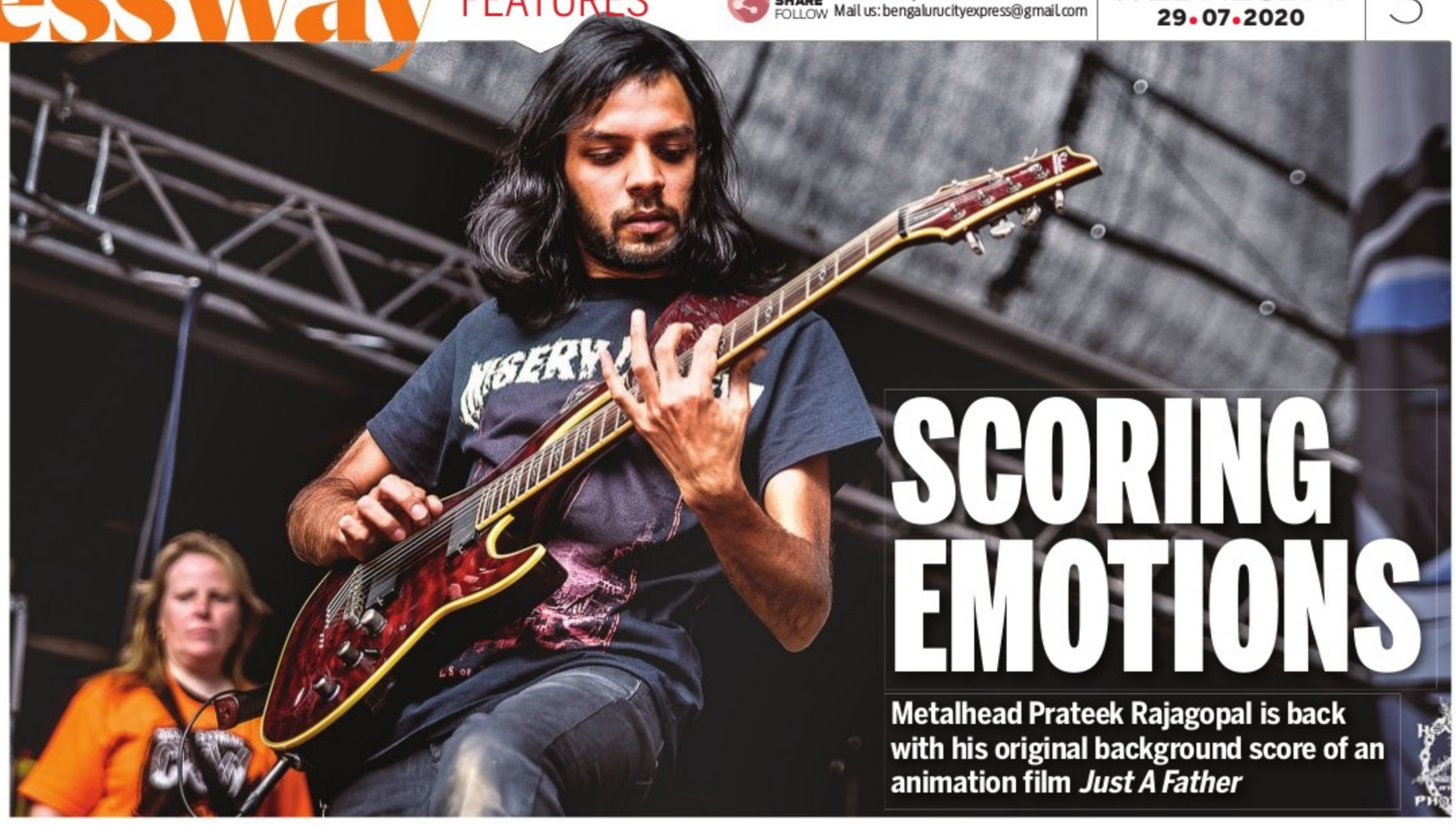
There are a few commonalities in all the depictions of aliens in movies. They are all nameless, sexless, and heartless. And they all usually land in the United States of America, even though most reports agree that economic growth in the land of the brave and the free has been stagnating around 2%. These depictions have limited our imagination of aliens.

I'm quite happy to acknowledge that Indians have a far more compassionate view of life beyond earth. When Indians decided to bring down aliens in *Koi Mil Gaya*, they shunned the Western notion of evil aliens, opting instead for Jadoo – a friendly alien who was distinctly Indian. Jadoo carried no guns, and inculcated Mahatma Gandhi's policy of ahimsa. Jadoo also dealt with peculiarly Indian problems, like dealing with school bullies, or answering a surprise question from the Computer Science teacher. Jadoo also liked songs, dance, and did his best to avoid policemen. It is an exemplary depiction of aliens in a positive, and I daresay - human light!

While I may be no expert in science, I am a film critic. And using my vast experience in watching alien movies, I would like to offer an earthly suggestion. It is time we change our attitude about aliens and interplanetary life. For if there are aliens out there, there can't be a better time to get pally with them.

With global warming and climate change becoming more apparent by the passing year, we clearly don't have too much time. It'll be a few hundred years till the countries of the world agree that we need to do something about the planet. I suggest we change our depiction of aliens in movies, just as a precautionary measure. Maybe the aliens are not evil demogorgons hell bent on wiping out the earth. But they might not be willing to turn the other cheek if they manage to get a DVD copy of *Alien vs Predator*!

The author's views are his own



SCORING EMOTIONS

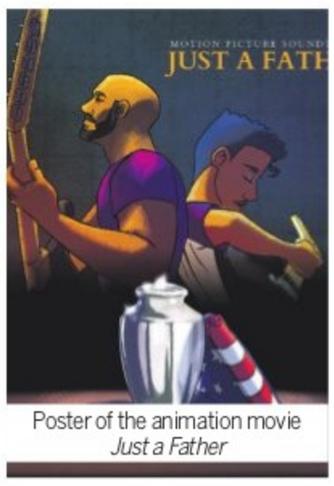
Metalhead Prateek Rajagopal is back with his original background score of an animation film *Just A Father*

Muneef Khan

After his deep and ambient leaning original soundtrack for psychological film *A Mother's Soliloquy* (2019), Muscat-bred and Los Angeles-based guitarist-producer-composer Prateek Rajagopal is back with his original score for upcoming animation film *Just A Father.*

A part of musician Arun Natarajan's Bengaluru-based Subcontinental Records, Rajagopal's score revolves around the plot of a son and his siblings who hold a complicated relationship with their father. "When the father dies, none of the siblings was willing to cremate him, except for one, the protagonist, who goes through an array of emotions but learns a great deal of acceptance through the process. Because of that, it was important for me to portray the music in a similar and complex way, but to also have a common thread throughout," says Rajagopal, adding that he came up with two primary themes. "The first is based around the grief and complex emotions depicted in the form of a descending and emotional piano melody, to portray the 'descent' and 'contraction' of the protagonist's thoughts. The second is based around acceptance, which I portrayed through a guitar chord and melody that meanders, but eventually comes back to a feeling of optimism," he says.

Best known for his works with death-metal outfit GUTS-LIT and his genre-bending solo project HOIA – including a collaboration with Porcupine Tree member Colin Edwin – Rajagopal asserts that using the guitar was primary to the storyline. He adds,"The piano was a surprise add-on. I wrote all the themes on the piano first, and when I ran it through the guitar, I thought it would be interesting if one theme was guitar-based and one was piano-based." While the rest as he cites was scored purely by instinct and his love for instrumental colours – orchestral strings and synths, the track also highlights a significantly different sound oozing dense elements and portraying heavy-hearted emotions. "The director, Kenae Lowry, wanted a funk meets sound design score, which I did and delivered. However, in May, we decided that it didn't feel right, and I told her that I wanted to go back to the drawing board and re-do the score from scratch. She agreed, and gave me full freedom to take it in a direction that I thought would work," he exclaims.



Poster of the animation movie *Just a Father*

Ask him about his shift from the heavy genre to a calmer tone and he cites his ability to pull out various musical hats. He adds, "I am genuinely in love and inspired by so many forms of music – death metal, Avant-garde, Indian/Western classical to electronica – that I am able to channelise various sides of my many musical personalities when I wish to."

Currently working on a game project and two other short films, Rajagopal's calendar is seemingly packed with another project lined up starting September. "I am playing lots of guitars and doing synth work for clients/friends who are doing their own scoring. I have wrapped up a song for an upcoming Indian-American feature," he says, citing the success of *A Mother's Soliloquy* which was a semi-finalist entry at the Oscars' Student Awards division and a finalist for Best Original Score at Athens Film Festival and IndieX Awards.

Bottling two cultures

Anu Kuruvilla

If one was to find similarities between Kerala culture and the Irish culture for a masterpiece fusion, it would definitely start with the shared love for fine alcohol. Robert Barrett and Bhagyalekshmi launched 'Maharani Gin', a name that would rekindle nostalgia for many around the world.

The signature botanicals used in the gin are sourced from Wayanad district, making it an organic ode to Kerala. "As a couple who accommodates distinct cultural backgrounds, we wanted our first product to celebrate this diversity," says Robert. The gin was conceived as a means to bring out the flavours and ingredients from Kerala, which is known as the land of spices. "We wanted to base it out here, and my wife found Vanamoolika, a women's organic collective based in the Western Ghats, to execute our plan," says Barrett. The couple met them and was impressed with the quality of the produce. Kerala's royal spice mix that includes nutmeg mace, pomelo and cassia go into making the peculiar sour and spicy gin.

"I structured the remaining ingredients—cardamom, lemon, orange, coriander, orris and juniper to support the flavour," says Barrett, a biochemist.

Bhagyalekshmi and Robert Barrett, co-founders of Maharani Gin

Bhagyalekshmi, an IT professional, hailing from Kollam moved to Ireland in 2013. The couple met there and hit it off, owing to their shared love for craft beers. "We love visiting farmers' markets, art galleries, museums, craft distilleries and breweries during our travels," says Bhagyalekshmi.

"We wanted to identify the right location to host the process. We came across the old Ford factory building and instantly fell in love with it," she says. Branding and bottling also give away their shared Irish-Malayali culture. "We chose to write Viplava spirit (rebel spirit) in Malayalam on the bottle, as a nod to the rebellious history of both Ireland where we are based and Kerala," says Bhagyalekshmi.

TOPPERS

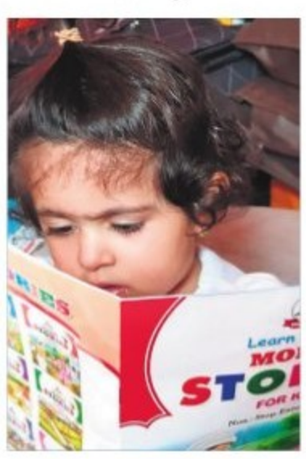
POLICE PUBLIC SCHOOL (CLASS 10- ICSE)

94.4% Sneha Shindhe

91.4% K V Deeksha

Hooked and booked

There is a new entry to book lover's club and that's none other than Arya – Radhika Pandit and Yash's daughter. Pandit took it to Instagram posting a picture of her being deeply engrossed in a book, saying, "I haven't concentrated this hard even during exams!! I prefer giving her books instead of phones/ television, to keep her entertained, this way she develops the habit of reading!!"



Manju Latha Kalanidhi

POWER OF 5AM THOUGHTS

Every day, about 600 people across the world are setting up their alarms for 4.45 am to wake up, and join Kartika Nair, coach, trainer and manifestation practitioner, for her 5 am club. A group meditation, chant, affirmations, dream discussions... is what Nair calls 'The Magic Morning Manifestation Club' from 5 am to 6 am.

This 29-year-old brought up in Bengaluru says the Covid-19 times has seen a surge in the number of people watched her videos on YouTube, who attended her webinar and signed up for her course. "In these trying times, self-love is most important to stay safe and sane. The 5 am club is about self-healing with a mix of self-worth," she says.

A firm believer in the Law of Attraction, manifestation and visualisation techniques to realise dreams, Nair believes that her life itself has been the greatest teacher, besides of course, the online training certifications she has obtained. She says that she is an introvert who suffered from Panic Disorder. "My panic disorder was so severe that I could not even step out of the house. Even the rustle of a leaf sounded like an earthquake rumble. I had many such issues. In fact, 2013 was the year I hit rock bottom. My self-esteem was zero. I undertook all possible therapies for the next three years, but it was the book *Power of Now The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment* is a book by Eckhart Tolle. The book is intended to be a guide for day-to-day living and stresses the importance of living in the present moment and transcending thoughts of the past or future. It changed my life. I started believing reading and practising mindfulness, positive thinking, manifestation etc."

My panic disorder was so severe that I could not even step out of the house. Even the rustle of a leaf sounded like an earthquake rumble
—Kartika Nair
founder, 5AM Club

Nair then started sharing her knowledge through YouTube videos through her channel called Synchroshakti. "People started watching my videos and started messaging me for details or for guidance. Today I have 142K subscribers but I get over 1.2 million views for some videos such as Ho'oponopono, a Hawaiian practice of reconciliation and forgiveness. But what about those who debunk theories such as Law of Attraction or that we attract everything in our life based on our vibrations? How does she convince people who do not believe in such 'easy peasy' solutions? Nair states firmly that she is not here to prove a point to anyone. "If someone thinks, this is all pop psychology, so be it. This is what I believe in. And 600 others who spend time and money to join me every morning. Obviously, they are getting the results," she adds.

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Director S Ravindranath and producer Vikhyath are in talks to bring the Dimple Queen and Daali of *Tagaru* fame together on silver screen

DHANANJAY AND RACHITA RAM JOIN HANDS FOR FILM ?

Rachita Ram

Dhananjay

CE Features

Rachita Ram confirmed that she is in talks with the makers of *Pushpaka Vimana* for a project. Reports are also rife that Dhananjay will also be part of the S Ravindranath's directorial to be producer under the banner, Vikhyath Chitra.

The director and producer, who have felt that the two fit the respective characters are in talks to bring the Dimple Queen and Daali of *Tagaru* fame together on silver screen. While this project will be the second collaboration for Rachita, this will be the first time that Dhananjay is teaming up with the director and producer. In an earlier interview, Rachita mentioned that the team has come up with good content, and a character she has never played before,. This has created a curiosity about the subject and the roles that have caught the attention of the two actors. Meanwhile, both Dhananjay and Rachita will be seen together in Prabhu Srinivas's upcoming venture produced by Yogesh Narayan. Dhananjay has shot a chunk of his portion which was done in Lucknow before the lockdown. Rachita is yet to participate in the shoot. If all goes well, this will be the second project for the two actors. However, a confirmation will be made when they get an official announcement from the production end.

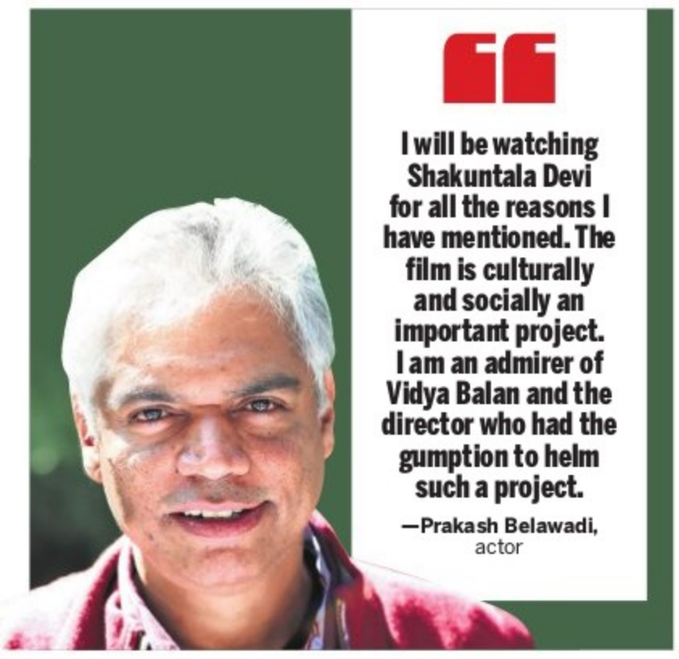
While Rachita has films -- *100, Ek Love Ya*– lined up for release, the actor, who has completed shooting for her Telugu debut, *Super Machi,* will juggle between various projects -- *April, Lilly,* and *Veeram*. Dhananjay too, is also one of the busiest actors in Sandalwood at the moment, and has a handful of films in the pipeline. The actor is awaiting the release of *Salaga,* in which he shares screen space with actor-director Vijay. Dhananjay's other upcoming films are the Puneeth Rajkumar-starrer *Yuvarathnaa*, and *Pogaru* which stars Dhruva Sarja. He is currently juggling shooting for *Badava Rascal,* his maiden production venture, and *Daali*. Meanwhile, he is gearing up to play the role of MP Jayaraj, a biopic on the first underworld don. He will also be sharing screen space with Shivarajkumar in director Vijay Milton's upcoming venture, which is slated to go on floors in 2021.

'Watching OTT content is like ordering a pizza'

Continued from page 1

With OTT being all the rage, it is surprising to learn that Prakash Belawadi, who is gearing for the release of the biopic on *Shakuntala Devi,* hasn't watched a single web series so far. "Watching a film or a web series on a streaming platform is like ordering a pizza. I am someone who likes to watch it with people and discuss the work. The idea of watching something in the comfort of my home does not interest me, unless the content is a biography. If my friends have acted, I usually watch one episode, but otherwise, I don't like watching web series. I am a boring person by nature, and don't get entertained easily," says Prakash, adding, "Having said that, I will be watching Shakuntala Devi for all the reasons I have mentioned. The film is culturally and socially an important project. I am an admirer of Vidya Balan and the director who had the gumption to helm such a project. I will also be watching Nikhil Advani's web series, for it is about a topic that is very much to my interest."

Belawadi has also been part of a few web series, and a couple of films that are lined up for release. "I have done three web series, out of which Smoke made by Eros has been released. I am looking forward to Mumbai Diaries 26/11, directed by Nikhil Advani, which is based on the Mumbai attack. It was a fantastic experience working on that project, and it is slated for a digital release on November 26 on Prime. There is also an offbeat web series, whose working title is *Wonder Pill,* that I have done for MX Player. I am also a part of Saad Khan's *Humble Politician Nograj,* which is coming out as a web series," he says. "As for films, I will be seen in *Yuvarathnaa* starring Puneeth Rajkumar, along with a few other Kannada films. I also have an interesting Tamil film, Suriya's upcoming venture, *Soorarai Pottru,* which is again about a Bengaluru character. It is Captain Gopinath's story dramatised and fictionalised. This is again a subject that Kannada filmmakers missed out on."



> **I will be watching Shakuntala Devi for all the reasons I have mentioned. The film is culturally and socially an important project. I am an admirer of Vidya Balan and the director who had the gumption to helm such a project.**
>
> —Prakash Belawadi, actor

First song from *Kaalacharka* out on Friday

CE Features

With the festive season around the corner, the entertainment industry is in a buzz to resurface amid the pandemic. The makers of *Kaalachakra*, starring Vasishta Simha, are unveiling a song *Taragale,* on Friday evening on the occasion of Varamahalakshmi. The track will be out on Anand audio, and is composed by Gurukriran, with lyrics written by Santosh Nayak, and sung by well known Bollywood singer, Kailash Kher. Made under the banner, Rashmi Films, the film is a psychological-thriller directed by Sumanth Kranti, and will feature the lead actor in two shades -- in his mid-30s and the other as a 60-year-old. The cast of *Kaalachakara* also comprises Raksha, Deepak Shetty, Avika Rathod and Suchendra Prasad among others. The film, which is ready for release, has L M Suri handling the cinematography.

Resul Pookutty opens up on the 'curse of the Oscars'

CE Features

Oscar-winning sound designer Resul Pookutty says he had difficulty finding work in Bollywood after winning the Academy Award, but is glad that the Oscar curse is apparently over.

Resul's statement comes in the wake of Shekhar Kapur's tweet to Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman, telling the musician that the Hindi film industry refused to give him work because he had won an Academy Award, which proved "you have more talent than Bollywood can handle".

Kapur had tweeted to Rahman after the latter said there was a gang in Bollywood that refused to let him in by spreading rumours about him in the industry.

Opening up about his struggles, Resul tweeted to look back at the time when he was nearing a "breakdown".

"Dear @shekharkapur, ask me about it, I had gone through near breakdown as nobody was giving me work in Hindi films and regional cinema held me tight after I won the Oscar... There were production houses told me at my face "we don't need you" but still I love my industry, for it," he tweeted.

Resul's post was a response to filmmaker Shekhar Kapur's tweet reading: "You know what your problem is @arrahman? You went and got #Oscars. An Oscar is the kiss of death in Bollywood. It proves you have more talent than Bollywood can handle."

The sound engineer added that he could have moved to Hollywood, but he did not.

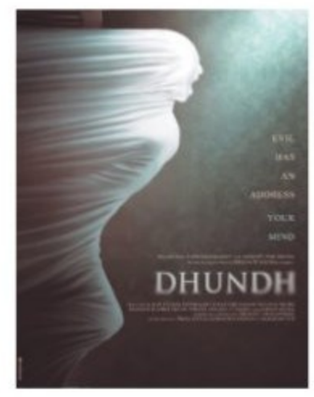
"My work in India won me the Oscar. I got nominated six times for MPSE and won too... There will always be people to run you down but I have far more faith in my people than anybody else," he shared.

Resul Pookutty went on to describe his experience as a result of the 'Oscar curse'.

"And much later when I discussed this with my Academy members friends, they told me about Oscar curse. It's faced by everybody. I enjoyed going through that phase, when you are on top of the world and people reject you, it's the biggest reality check," he explained.

He continued: "Oscar curse is over, We moved on. I'm also not liking the direction in which the whole nepotism discussion is going. So peace! I'm not blaming anybody for not taking me in their films."

Resul Pookutty and A R Rahman



Prerna V Arora, Aftab Shivdasani to bankroll *DHUNDH*

CE Features

Prerna V Arora's Mandiraa Entertainment is set to collaborate with Mount Zen Media spearheaded by actor Aftab Shivdasani and his wife, Nin Dusanj Shivdasani, for a psychological horror film titled *Dhundh*.

With this film, Prerna returns to the horror genre after her earlier successful venture, the Anushka Sharma-starrer, Pari.

Talking about the psychological horror film interwoven with a love story, Prerna said, "We want to pick the best stories and back the right content under Mandiraa Entertainment. It has reflected in the films that we've announced so far. *Dhundh* is an engaging and nail-biting psychological horror film. I'm very glad to associate with Aftab and can't wait to take this on floors."

Adding, Aftab said, "With our new venture Mount Zen Media, we want to develop content that is cutting edge, contemporary, and appealing and associate with people who share the same vision." The film is expected to go on floors by October 2020 and release in the first half of 2021.

NATALIE PORTMAN EXCITED TO PLAY MIGHTY THOR IN UPCOMING FILMS

CE Features

Natalie Portman says she is very excited to take on the avatar of Mighty Thor in an upcoming instalment of the superhero franchise.

The Oscar-winning actor is set to return to the Marvel Cinematic Universe with Thor: Love and Thunder. The film sees her become the first female to play the superhero Thor. According to Portman, her version of Thor is not considered Lady Thor but rather The Mighty Thor. "She's actually The Mighty Thor," the actress told Serena Williams in a recent Instagram Live session.

"The comics had the female Thor when Jane becomes Thor, and she's The Mighty Thor," she added.

Portman explained to Williams that due to the coronavirus pandemic, the upcoming film has yet to start production.

Netflix announces prequel to *The Witcher* titled *The Witcher: Blood Origin*

CE Features

Netflix has announced a limited prequel series to *The Witcher* titled *The Witcher: Blood Origin*. The six-part series will trace the origins of the Witchers, about 1,200 years ago in the world of elves. The cast details are yet to be announced.

Henry Cavill plays the titular role as the Geralt of Rivia in The Witcher, which became Netflix's second most-watched series in 2019. The series is an adaptation of Andrzej Sapkowski's The Witcher novels and stories.

Declan de Barra, one of the writers of The Witcher season one will act as executive producer and showrunner of the upcoming series. "A question has been burning in my mind ever since I first read The Witcher books – What was the Elven world really like before the cataclysmic arrival of the humans? I've always been fascinated by the rise and fall of civilizations, how science, discovery, and culture flourish right before that fall," de Barra said in the statement while announcing the series.

The shooting for the second season of *The Witcher* is set to resume in the UK in August. Earlier this year, Netflix also announced an animated spin-off film on the fantasy drama, *The Witcher: Nightmare Of The Wolf*.